CRUISES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

OF H.M.S. CHANTICLEER
DURING GREEK WAR OF
1824-26

WILLIAM BLACK
L.R.C.S.E.
H.M.S. CHANTICLEER

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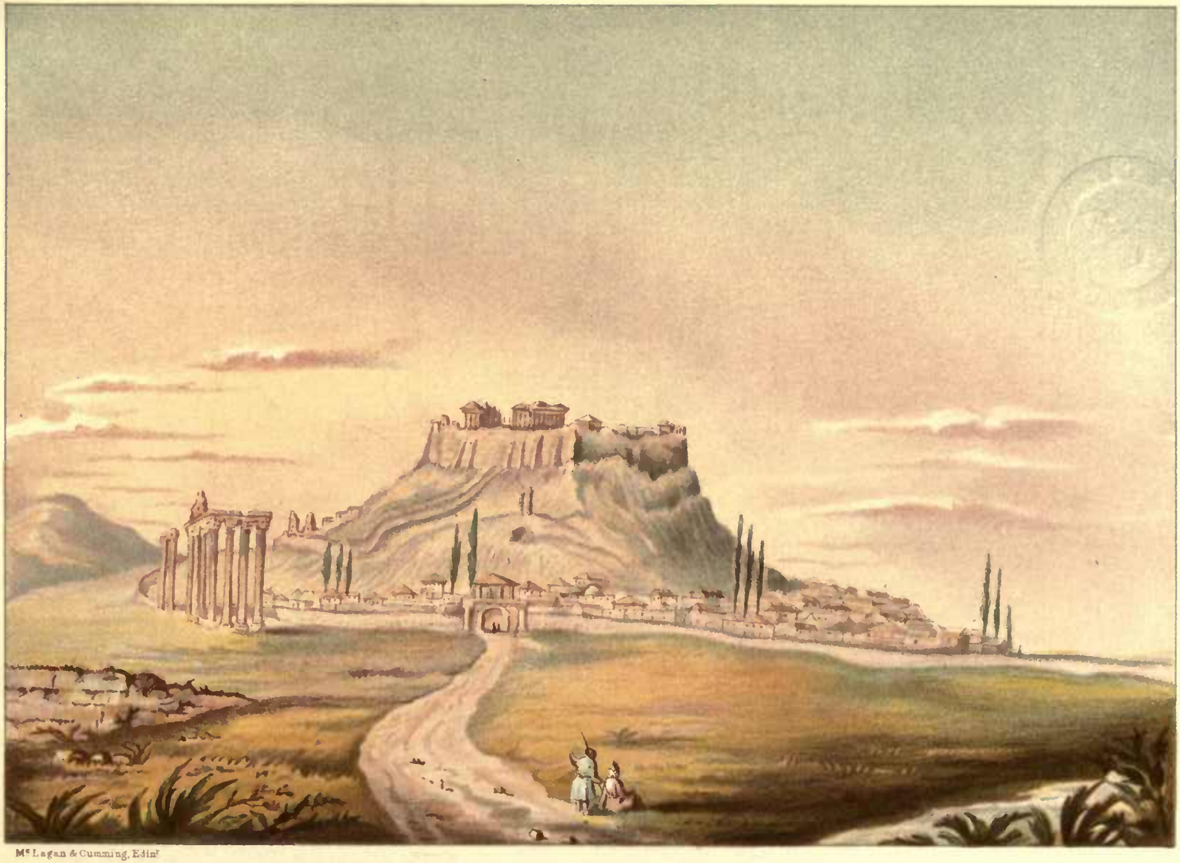
Narrative of Cruises in the Mediterranean



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VIEW OF THE ACROPOLIS FROM THE BANKS OF THE ILYSSUS.
SEPT 1824.

Frontispiece. See page 15

NARRATIVE OF CRUISES

IN THE

MEDITERRANEAN

In H.M.S. "Euryalus" and "Chanticleer"

DURING THE

GREEK WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

(1822-1826)

BY

WILLIAM BLACK, L.R.C.S.E.

Surgeon, H.M.S. "Chanticleer."

WITH AN APPENDIX ON THE CLIMATE, AND METEOROLOGICAL AND NOSOLOGICAL TABLES

TWO COLOURED AND EIGHTEEN HALF-TONE ILLUSTRATIONS

EDINBURGH
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PREFACE

THE late Turko-Greek War about the Independence of Crete drew my attention to a record of the visits of the ships of the British Fleet to various ports in the Egean, Adriatic, and Mediterranean Seas, kept by my Uncle, William Black, L.R.C.S.E., when serving in H.M.S. *Euryalus* and *Chanticleer.* The manuscript was found amongst family papers in store at home, and as it was written fully out, the suggestion to place it in print was originated by the above events.

A collection of sketches also came to hand, executed by the same officer on the spot, and some were selected for illustrations to render the narrative more acceptable and life-like.

These afford views of the older fortifications of ports and the old form of ships of our squadrons, before the period of shell guns and armour-clads.

The narrative seems descriptive of official visits of British ships to various ports and harbours, and scenes of the Turkish and Greek operations of war

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precedent to the grand crisis of the naval battle of Navarino in the Morea.

A sketch of the climate of the Mediterranean Seas during the years 1824-27 is appended, giving the results of meteorological observations taken on board ship at sea and in ports, and nosological register.

THE EDITOR,
W. G. Black, F.R.C.S.E.

Edinburgh, *June* 1899.

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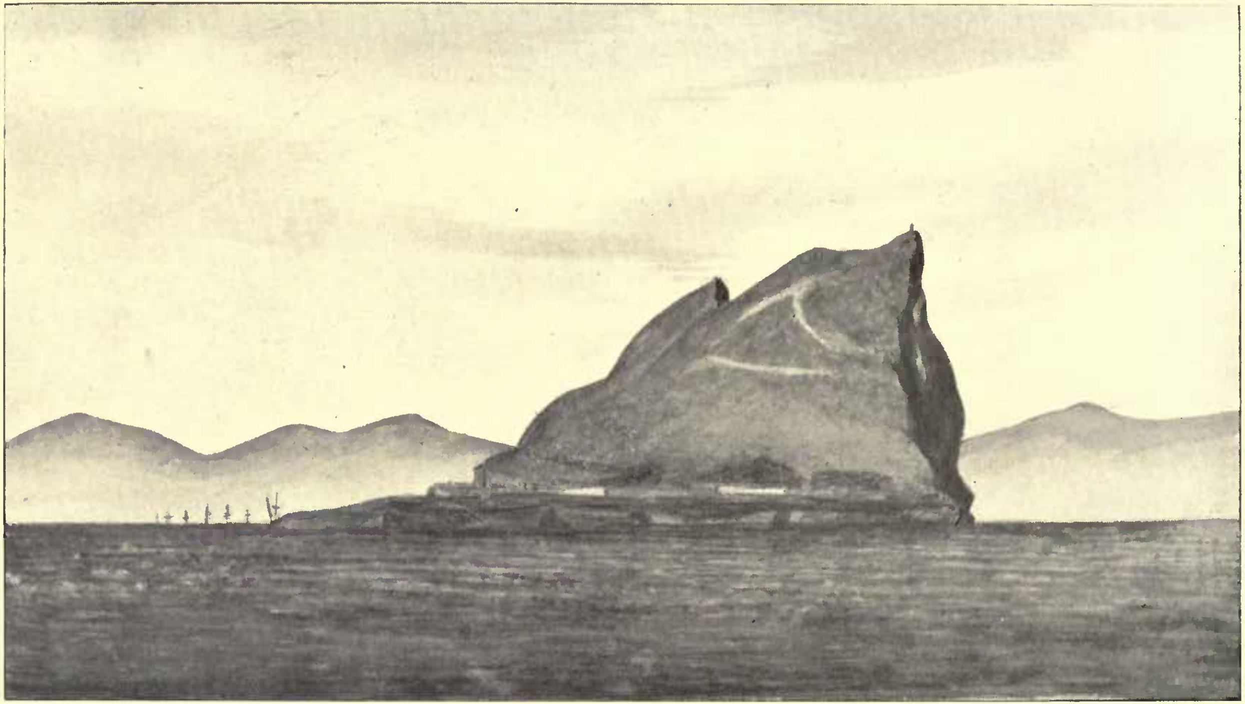
NARRATIVE OF VOYAGES

CHAPTER I

Straits of Gibraltar—Tarifa—The Rock—Ceuta—Coast of Spain—Calms—Catching Turtle.

AT SEA, THE STRAITS, H.M.S. *Euryalus*, 19*th March* 1822. — After having contended for some days with a contrary wind, on our approach to the Straits of Gibraltar, and standing off and towards the coast of Barbary, near Cape Spartel, we at length were favoured, at an early hour of the 14th inst., with a change of wind sufficient to admit of our reaching the Rock by means of a very few tacks. The morning, though cloudy, was fine; and, from the way in which the ship had to be worked through the Straits, an excellent opportunity was afforded for seeing their general outline, and the rude mountains which terminate, on either shore, the continents of Africa and Europe. The dimness of the morning, and the clouds which hung like folds of drapery over the summit of the Herculean Pillars, and which seemed, at several places, loosely rolling down their precipitous fronts, gave to Abyla and all the African hills an imposing appearance, heightened by the deep shade which encircled them; while as the morning advanced, and the ship neared the coast, the different valleys became enlightened before the eye in all the vernal softness of this genial clime; though, from the distance between us and the shore, no definite objects were discernible, but all was pictured in the pleasing and variegated shades of the fertile vale and barren rock of the mountain. The opposite coast, though hilly, is not so bold in the foreground; but, one over another the hills are seen rising up in an amphitheatrical manner, exhibiting still finer contrasts in their different shades. Beautifully green at their bases, vegetation seemed to languish with the ascent of the mountain; while near the summit it is lost in the less lively hue of the hardy plant of the elevated precipice.

The town of Tarifa, with its little island and tower boldly jutting out from the shore, is a beautiful object; and in its vicinity, though at this season of the year, the vales and hilly slopes looked fresh and green. No longer is the sound of the death-dealing gun heard echoing around its romantic hills. Once the scene of contesting armies, and begirt with the military lines of a baffled and extensive host, it needs no longer the gallantry of a Skerrit to defend it, and bury its besiegers in their trenches; though doubtless many a sad im-



GIBRALTAR.

To face page 2.

pression then made remains indelible to this day, and the widow and orphan full oft are compelled to renew the sad tear, as the sun daily breaks over the neighbouring mountain, and discloses the soil in which their kindred are laid, and where they breathed out their last beneath the sword of poor reckless ambition.

Standing off from this place, with the breeze at S.W., we reached the middle of the Channel about eight o'clock, when the Rock of Gibraltar began to open to our view behind the point of Cabrita. Europa Point first appeared, then the summit of the Rock enshrouded by the thinly grey clouds of the morning, and the whole body of this Herculean mass was fully disclosed to view by the time the ship again tacked, under the other towering pillar on the African side.

From this the ship lay down into the Bay of Algeziras, rounding Cabrita tower at the distance of five or six miles, when, from the strength of the wind which gradually freshened up, we were soon able to heave to under the Rock, at about a mile's distance from the town. A signal was then made with a gun for a boat, which soon afterwards came off and took a mail from England, with a gentleman on shore who had come out with us from Portsmouth. It had been altogether a beautiful morning, and soon after the sun broke out, every cloud disappeared, and the whole form of this huge pile of rock, with its town begirding its shelving base, was seen to the best advantage. Excepting the gardens seen spread out round its base, and which have evidently been formed by the labour of the settler, little verdure was discernible; but its hills were softly shaded over with the bluish-grey tint of an alpine scene, and on the dark eastern sky in the background the outline of the Rock was to be distinctly traced, throughout all the elevated and blanched appearance of its summit. Situated as we were, while the ship was lying to, with the whole mass of this immense fortress spread out before us, the surrounding prospect was certainly one pregnant with much interest and picturesque beauty.

To the northwards lay the deep circular Bay of Algeziras, bounded on the east by the Isthmus and Rock, round the northern end of which mast peered over mast, in all the throng of a harbour; while the opposite shore was bounded by the town and environs of Algeziras itself, beyond which the hills of Andalusia arose in all the variety of pastoral scenery and romantic configuration. To the northward again, the eye was attracted by the town of St Roque, seen perched on the summit of a verdant hill, about ten miles from Gibraltar, and from which the hopeful eye of female majesty is reported to have long gazed in vain for the gratification of her patriotic wishes, in the fall of the adamantine fortress and the overthrow of British prowess, which was displayed from its battlements.

Such was the distance of the mountains which filled up the rear of this place, that all was involved in the soft, mazy tints of the distant horizon, or became blended in the scattered grey clouds of its genial atmosphere. On turning round from this scene, the eye, after sweeping the widening expanse of the classical wave, with its throng of white sails busily wafting along with the breeze, soon rests on the rocky promontory of Ceuta to the southward, which is situated about ten miles from the Rock. There, without the aid of a glass, the strong barrier and military fortification were plainly discernible thoughout the whitened outlines of stonework encircling the place, while the contiguous isthmus and beach were clad with buildings and houses.

Further on, towards the Strait, Ape's Hill, or Abyla, may again be taken notice of, as the next conspicuous object in the prospect, and which reared up its front, as dark and rude in appearance as the tribes now existing behind it. The intervening expanse which embraces the fathomless current of the Straits, is, at all times, a lively feature in the prospect, being the gate of a sea through which the ships of every civilised nation now navigate, whether for the purpose of commercial or military pursuit. Not a day nor an hour passes, but the sail of some voyager is seen spread on its surface, some wafting home to the most distant climes the rich traffic of the east, others laden with the produce of countries whose shores are wide-washed by the waves of the more gigantic ocean of the west; while frequently the gay ship of war is seen sweeping along with the breeze in all the pomp and pride of the flag she displays.

No further communication having taken place with the shore, about three o'clock (afternoon) advantage was taken of the breeze, which now was from the west; and in a few minutes after sail was made we passed the southern end of the Calpean Pillar, and at the rate of ten miles an hour, soon left it far behind us; the different groups of spectators who had all the day crowded the deck, continued watching with what celerity the fading hues of the Rock were obscured and lost in the receding distance.

The fine westerly breeze, with which we had bid farewell to the Rock, did not continue long; but towards morning, March 20th, became very variable, and in the course of the following day died away into a perfect calm. When the wind again sprang up, it was from the north and eastward, blasting all our hopes of seeing the shores of Italy so soon as we could have wished. Up to this date, however, we have made considerable progress, although the wind has never been many hours favourable at any one time, and often interrupted altogether by a twelve hours calm. From such weather and the short distance we often were from the Spanish coast, we frequently had a view of this part of the Mediterranean shores, and particularly that between Gibraltar and

Carthagena. Its whole line is remarkably bold, and presents a rough hilly barrier all along, both barren and scorched in appearance from the burning sunshine on a dry soil. Although the waves flowing round it, and the sky of its evening are enchanting to the beholder, yet so far as old Eurus brought the coast under our eye, nothing presented itself either of interest or inviting to such sojourners as us, whatever beauties may lie hid in the interior.

In the direction of Carthagena, the hilly country, however, appeared sloping down to the more pleasing level of the inviting part ; while the few floating sails, seen dancing on the smooth surface of the retiring bay, bespoke the contiguity of a port and the busy throng of a trading life. Like the fleeting images of the night, this prospect was soon lost, and before our approach was near enough to call up our interest, or leave any lasting impression, we were again wafted to sea, and ere Apollo's fiery track was extinguished in the west, our barque had stolen far from the land, not a vestige of which remained visible in the wide scope of the briny horizon.

One of those calms, before alluded to, we experienced yesterday, when the sun broke out in all the growing vigour of his vernal heat ; not a cloud was to be seen, nor was there a single zephyr sporting on the blue expanse which surrounded the ship. Each sail hung like loose drapery on the masts, nor was the least motion felt on the deck; everything, moving like ocean's swell, having subsided throughout the deep profound. Unlike the calm blaze of noon in the country, there was nothing from without to break in on the moment; no noise of birds nor of living nature; no din of rural work nor rural throng; and the naturally restless energies of the seaman were as completely suspended as the motion of the barque in which he tried to carol away the listless hour of vacuity.

While time thus hung heavy on his hand, and the glass was often raised in vain to espy if any vessel could be seen, or the dark ripple of the approaching breeze, a fine tortoise was espied, luxuriating in his meridian nap at a little distance from the ship. What a stir then ensued all along the sunny deck; and then, like the child escaped from under the rigid eye of old age, all on board gave way to an extraordinary interest in this episode, and this simple object of excitement produced effects which could only have obtained under such circumstances. A boat was soon lowered, and after a few sweeps of the oar, the poor captive was brought on board, where soon were attracted round it both the eyes of the curious and the *bon vivant*, each interested in their respective gratifications. To fill up the time, now fully and scientifically were discussed every arcana of the culinary art, and the joys of to-morrow's feast took precedence of every other anticipation.

I may add, instead of the old saw, a new one, 'it is no wind which brings a body good'; for, although such a frequency of calms was annoying to the passenger, and productive of growling ennui to the seaman, yet, with a favourable breeze, their tables could never have been graced with such dainties as those, in which a considerable number participated; for, in the course of the afternoon, five excellent fish were taken, which served to divert, for a little, the energies of all from navigation to gastronomy.

CHAPTER II

City of Naples—Studio—Views—Monastery St Martin—
Villa Reale.

Bay of Naples, *3rd April* 1822.—After the continuance, a few days longer, of the calms and light winds taken notice of, a leading breeze at length sprang up, by means of which we made the Island of Sardinia, on the 26th March; but after passing which, it again died away and became very variable. On the 29th, however, the wind changed round to the west; and by next morning, such was our rapid progress that, in the course of the forenoon, we had calculated on making the shores of Italy. The morning had dawned on us with a continuance of that fine weather and cloudless sky which for some time we had enjoyed, and the sun had already become very powerful. The ship was steering before the wind, with every inviting sail spread out to receive it, and going at the rate of four miles an hour; when, to the happiness and satisfaction of the anxious navigator, land was reported on the larboard bow from the mast-head. At this moment every glass had been anxiously sweeping the eastern horizon, and the deck was thickly crowded with spectators, from the representative of his Majesty, to the young aspirant, and the playful child. The land thus descried soon emerged from its hazy and doubtful appearance, and was recognised as the well-known Island of Ischia.

From the lightness of the breeze we advanced towards the shore very slowly; but long before sunset such had been our progress, that not only the island just noticed, but also that of Capri, were brought distinctly into view, and our approach to the mouth of the bay was both beautiful and interesting. The day having hitherto been fine, the afternoon sky was clothed in beautiful hues, which were rivalled by the tints which the islands and rocks reflected back to the eye; and as we slowly advanced the beauty of the scene gradually increased. The entrance of the Bay of Naples is flanked by Ischia and Capri; the former of which to the northward is one immense white irregular rock. It was formerly a volcano, but being now covered with houses and gardens, presents to the stranger a truly romantic spectacle, from the style in which the villas and houses are suspended on the lofty brows of the promontories on different galleries of the rocky mountain; while at some distance up they were lost in the line of clouds, which were then seen intersecting the island a little way below its summit.

The Island of Capri, situated to the southward, though not so large, presents nearly a similar aspect; and as both are famed in the classical page, so are the numerous shelving rocks of the latter thickly studded over with the ruins of antiquity, many of which were distinctly traced with the assistance of a glass. Just as we had got between those two islands, the fine westerly breeze died completely away for two hours; and as if it were too much for the Gothic sons of the North to feast their eyes all at once on the grandeur and venerable antiquity of Parthenope and its environs, we were left in the offing to endure for some little time the penal vexation of mythological Tantalus.

Before the last rays of the setting sun had deserted the hemisphere, enough of Vesuvius was discerned to rouse up all the energies of Fancy respecting its furious volcano, as far down in the bay its darkly smoking peak was seen filling up the background. The deck, from the first appearance of this object, again became crowded, nor was it deserted by any, until with the breeze, which after night sprang up again, the lights of the city of Naples were spread out above us, and the whole profile of the mountain brought distinctly into view, in all the dark majesty of its midnight appearance.

It being now nearly twelve o'clock P.M., and the ship being brought safely to anchor, with others I left the deck, retired to my dormitory for the night, and dreamed of temples and palaces, of burning lavas, the descent of Paul, and the destruction of Pompeii.

Although for two weeks we had enjoyed the most pleasant and mild weather imaginable, such a change has taken place since our arrival here that I could almost have imagined myself in some English port; as for twenty-four hours after we came to anchor it blew very hard from the westward, and a heavy sea set into the bay, which obliged us to shift our anchorage somewhat further out from the mole; and the night previous there was a great deal of thunder and lightening with rain. The wind, shifting round to the east and northwards, was followed by a great depression of temperature, which last night was as low as 43° F.

The whole range of the Apennines seen from the ship are covered with snow, as well as the summit of Vesuvius to some distance below the smoking crater, which to a stranger, exhibits a singular appearance. Many, having formed rather extravagant ideas of this place, felt much disappointed in the view on their arrival here. I, however, from my opinion having perhaps been rather biassed by what I had previously formed of the people now in possession of the country, must say, that I was by no means disappointed on seeing Naples. On the contrary, I have seen much to excite my interest and admiration, if not to alter my opinion somewhat in favour of the nation itself; for, from the great care with which they seem to have preserved the relics of the ancients, and the expenses they have been at in recovering or imitating their works of art, they have at least shown much taste and refinement, and more ardent enthusiasm than could have been expected from them by the more phlegmatic but moral genius of northern Europe ; and, if placed under similar circumstances, it is a question whether more industry would have been shown by the latter on the subject.

I have been one visit to the city yesterday, and as it was for the sole purpose of observation, my time was most happily occupied among the works of art, both ancient and modern. On landing with some of my friends, the first place we went to was the Public Museum, here called the *Studio.* The size of this building, which is always open to the public, is on a magnificent scale, and far exceeds, both in grandeur and extent, that of our own in London. Its situation is good, and is on an elevated part of the city, at the east end of the Strada di Toledo, one of the best streets in the place ; and which from its length, being nearly an English mile, and the bustle of carriages, etc., may be compared very justly to the Strand. The interior of the studio is laid out into lofty porticos and galleries, along either sides of which are arranged the numerous works of statuary which it contains ; and so lofty are the different arcades, or arched roofs of its compartments, that the best proportion obtains between them and the most colossal of the statuary. Here I spent three hours looking over the collection, and then had only a cursory sight of the whole, such is the great variety and number. Besides the whole collection at one time belonging to the Farnese house at Rome, here are to be seen a great variety of the most beautiful marble statues recovered from the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii, and many parts of the Sicilies; and in going out of one gallery into the other, such is the *coup d'œil* of so many expressive pieces of sculpture, that I could not help feeling as if I were just ushered into the company of superior living beings. With a French catalogue which I purchased at the outer portico, I had an easy clue to the name and character of each figure, which are all numbered. Some respect has lately been paid to the delicacy of English feeling, for the nakedness had lately been covered; and the celebrated Farnese Venus, with many other figures of the same kind, are enclosed in a gallery by themselves, which being locked up, is only opened to those who wish to inspect it.

Among the statuary, I may mention, as connected with the medical profession, an excellent colossal figure of Esculapius, found at Pompeii, and made of potter's earth; as also an immense basin of red porphyry, four feet in diameter, and which from the figures of serpents, poppies, and the head of Esculapius, has been supposed to have been a lustral basin of the temple of that divinity, and perhaps of the famous temple which was on the Island of Tiberinus. It is one of the Farnese collection.

The next thing which particularly attracted my attention was the collection of antiques and relics of Pompeii, which are extremely interesting, not only from their antiquity, but richness of artifice and value. The silver mortar from Herculaneum is the exact shape of the metal one used by our apothecaries, of 5 inches in height and 6 in diameter, and decorated with a very rich classical device in bas-relief round its exterior, representing the Apotheosis of Homer. The artist has placed this prince of poets on an eagle, which elevates him in the air, having a Greek soldier on his right, and an Ithacan one on his left, two evident emblems of his two divine poems of the Iliad and the Odyssey.

Here I could have remained longer, but as the day was fast advancing, and, to complete the day's ramble, several other places were yet to be visited, we left the studio at three o'clock P.M., and proceeded to the Carthusian Monastery of St Martin, situated near Fort St Elmo, on the hill which overlooks the whole town. There, after no little labour up so many winding galleries and stairs, we soon arrived, and spent nearly two hours in looking over the many paintings in oil and fresco which it contains; some of which, done by the first Italian masters, are very valuable.

The one which most forcibly struck me, was that of the Nativity, which was admirable for the reflected light from the Babe on its mother and the shepherds. Here I also saw some excellent specimens of the blue lapis lazuli, Sicilian agate, polished Breccia, and marble wrought up into the most superb sculpture and mosaic work imaginable.

After looking at these, we were led by one of the inmates of the house to the hanging gallery, from which it is supposed the grandest and most beautiful panoramic view in the world may be seen. Elevated at the height of some hundreds of feet above the surface of the bay, the prospect is certainly very extensive and grand. Under your feet is seen spread out the whole extent of the city, which presents a curious appearance, the houses being all flat-roofed, and, generally speaking, regularly built, and the streets mostly intersecting each other at right angles. Here and there the sameness is diversified by the decorated dome or lofty cupola, of which there are a great number in Naples; and, overlooking the streets, thickly crowded with carriages and people, numerous balconies as well as the roofs of the houses are seen covered with the gayest flowers in boxes and pots. Unlike the clouded towns of England, the atmosphere of this city is never obscured by smoke, even in the calmest and coldest seasons; for, with the exception of what fuel is used for cookery, little firing is necessary for any other purpose.

Looking beyond the town the whole semi-circular extent of the bay is seen with the shipping at anchor, and the white lines of houses and streets which extend along the shore. Filling up the background to the south-east, the two summits of Vesuvius are seen rearing up their volcanic heads and darkening the beautiful tinge of the sky in the rear with the smoky fumes of the crater. As seen at this period, its appearance was grand from the variety it presented; for some space below the crater the peak was covered with snow, out of which the smoke apparently issued, while further down nothing was observable but the black and hardened surface of the lava, or the streaked lines of ashes and scoriæ, which, about mid-way down the mountain, became indented with the bright and more lively hues of the harder rock, and verdant slope. Carrying the eye further down, surrounded with vineyards and beautiful woods, numerous houses and villas are seen, which gradually becoming more numerous towards the base of the mountain, the rural landscape of the villa is at last lost in the crowded buildings of Portici, which are now spread out over the ancient site of Herculaneum.

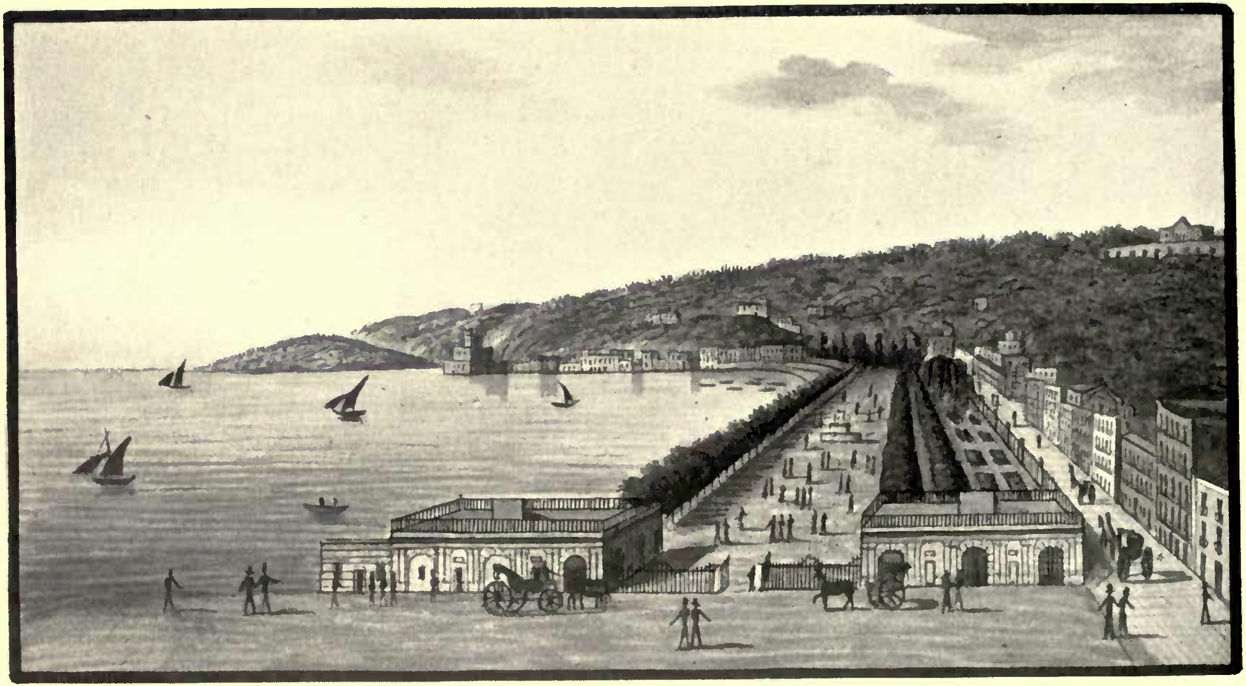
The whole base of the mountain, of a similar feature with the above, presents in the richness of its fertility and cultivation, a striking contrast to the destructive barren vomitory of its summit. As uncertain, too, how long Providence may permit them to enjoy all the blissful luxuries of their Elysian soil, as those were whose bones now lay buried beneath them, the present race, reckless of the future, persist in their labours; and when the hour of rest arrives sleep as sweetly and soundly as he who lives far from the land of volcanic eruption. It is some time since the eruption of the mount has been followed by much destructive effects; though the burning streams of lava, when it breaks out at times, damage the vineyards and plantations; and in the month of February last, 1822, a great eruption took place, which during two days continued to exhibit in its flames and torrents of lava a grand and terrific spectacle. The curious, I am informed, came even from Rome, and other distant places, to behold it. Of this eruption I have sent you a sketch, which I have got coloured by an artist in Naples.

To the northward and eastward of Vesuvius the green base of the hill becomes continuous with a fine level plain, which is part of the Campagna Felice. This is several miles in breadth and is bounded by the Apennine range of mountains, which, with their high-crested ridges, limit the range of the prospect to the northward. Being covered with snow they had a very bleak appearance, and the breeze, which was from that direction, was very cold; indeed, such are the effects which are felt by the Neapolitans, from their proximity to these hills, that very sudden changes of weather are often experienced; and two days after our arrival, when they became covered with snow, the thermometer sank to 43° in the night, which was about 12° below the temperature of the coast of England when we left it in February this year.

To the southward of Vesuvius is seen the promontory of Sorrentum, with its high ridge of mountains stretching eastwards, and finally becoming locked in behind the mountain.

The southern boundary of the bay presents very precipitous, and in some places, high cliffs, near the beach, which in many parts are almost inaccessible. Higher up, the town of Sorrentum itself, numerous villas, and little towns, are seen shining white all over the face of the hills, and filling up, with much variety, as well as romantic beauty, the enchanting scene before you.

But it is useless to attempt to depict every object which the prospect from the monastery of St Martin embraces, such is their number and extensive beauty; for besides what has been detailed, the Islands of Capri and Ischia, with the numerous gardens and palaces beneath your feet to the westward of the city, as well as the excavated heights of Posilippo, are all objects which combine and render the imagery as admirable as it is famous for its classical antiquity. This monastery, which is one of the best situated in Europe for its wholesome air, and sublimity of prospect, was once a very large establishment of monastics, but is now principally occupied as a hospital, though its church and halls are kept in excellent order, and every civility was shown us during our visit.



CHIAJA AND VILLA REALE, NAPOLI.

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As the day was now fast advancing, my friends and I, after looking over the place and spending nearly two hours, left it and descended on the western side of St Elmo to the Villa Reale, which is the grand and fashionable promenade of Naples, and may be compared, in this respect, to some of the parks in London. It consists of a long range of gardens, which extend along the shore, and are laid out in a very tasteful style with all kinds of shrubbery and flowers. At every few paces distance are seats of beautiful polished marble, supported on masses of the black lava and cinders of Vesuvius, and overshadowed with weeping willow, laburnum, or fragrant geranium. This place looks very inviting to the passing stranger or daily visitor, who, while he breathes health from the mild sea-breeze, can enjoy one of the most pleasing marine prospects imaginable.

What the Villa Reale is, however, the most remarkable for, is the number of marble statues, both of modern and antique sculpture, which are in it. Being mostly of the colossal size, and arranged on either side of the garden, which is about half-a-mile in length, such is the *coup d'œil*, on first entering, that for some time one's attention is completely absorbed in the grandeur of their appearance. So fancifully, however, are they screened by the shrubbery, or embowered in their flowery niches, that no figure but that nearest to you can be wholly seen; though the splendid whiteness of the marble is seen here and there shining along the vista, in which the many fair specimens of Art seem to vie with each other in the historic, fabulous, or classical interest which they claim. One of the most noted and ancient in the garden is the Toro, which stands in the centre of the grounds; it is a group of *Dirce tied to the horns of a bull* by the children of Lycus, King of Thebes, and is all of one mass of beautiful marble. It belonged to the Farnese family, and is now in excellent preservation.

Among the others may be seen Hercules and the Giant Anteus; Europa and the Bull, which last is of modern sculpture; Mentor and Telamachus; with many others too numerous to be noted. A colossal bust of the poet Tasso, overcanopied by a superb piece of architecture, shows the state of public feeling towards that celebrated Italian.

The grounds appear to be kept in good order, and must be of considerable expense to the city; for an immense number of labourers were at work sweeping and cleaning the walks, and at the several gates sentinels were posted on the place.

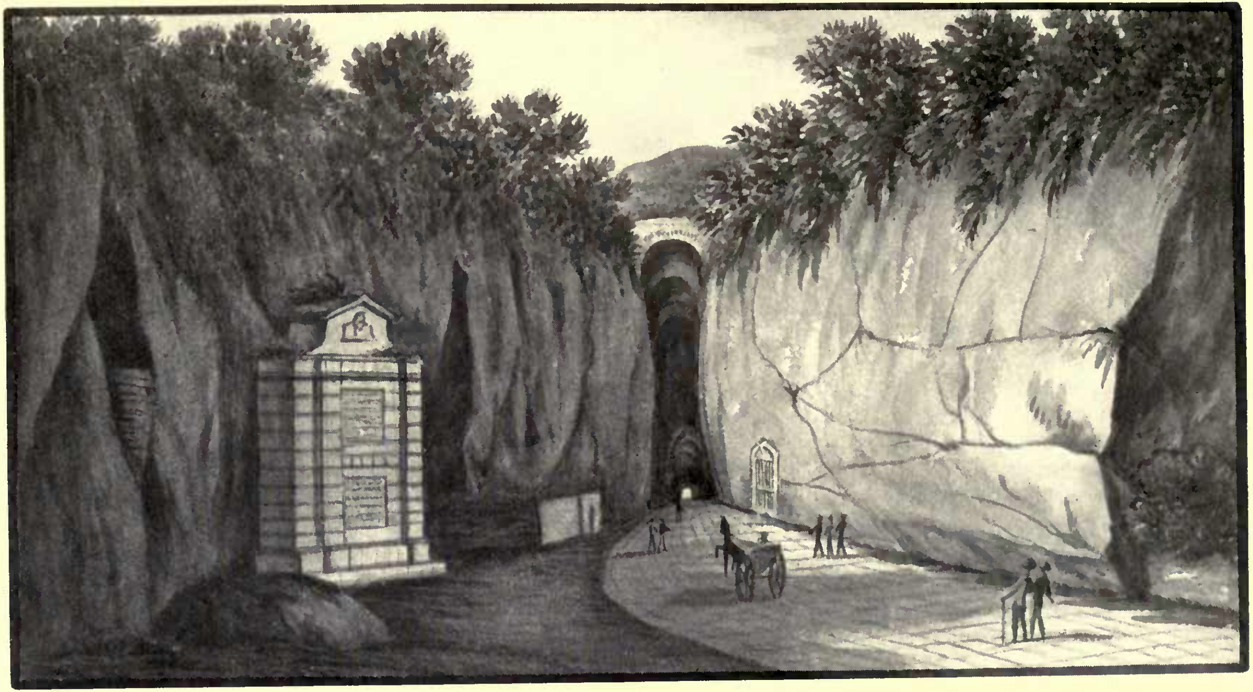
Leaving this about six o'clock in the evening we again returned to the Toledo, where being all ready for dinner, we entered a Tratoria, and made a most comfortable meal, which was served up in the French style, and only cost about three shillings including both Vin de pays and Lachrymæ Christi. After taking coffee in an adjoining coffee-house, and making some little purchases in the shops, we took a boat, about nine o'clock P.M., and returned to our little floating community.

CHAPTER III

Naples—Posilippo—Virgil's Tomb—Toledo Commerce.

Naples Bay, *6th April* 1822.—An idle hour having again presented itself, I now, principally for the sake of filling it up agreeably, take another opportunity of telling you the novelties which I fell in with on shore.

After paying another visit to the gardens, with two or three of my companions, I walked out to the Grotto of Posilippo, which is situated to the westward of the city. This piece of antiquity presents a notable example of the indefatigable labours of the Roman people, or the aborigines of this coast; for it is not, I believe, ascertained at what particular period it was formed. It is an immense arched excavation, of about 50 feet in height and 30 in width, carried through the body of a hill from shore to shore, and is about three-quarters of a mile in length. The only light afforded to the passenger is from two funnels, cut in an oblique direction out of the face of the hill on either side, and from a line of glimmering lamps suspended from the dark roof of the passage. The bottom has been paved



GROTTO OF POSILIPPO.

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with lava by Murat, is very level, and is wide enough to admit of two carriages abreast of each other. Such, however, is the great extent of the excavation, that the air in it always feels very cold, and were it not for the number of people constantly passing through, and the noise of the carriages re-echoing from its sides, one would otherwise experience a degree of chilly horror on entering such a place.

The hill through which the Grotto runs is of considerable height, and is a continuation of that above the city, on which Fort St Elmo is perched, and, terminating in a bluff-looking promontory, forms a considerable portion of the boundaries of the bay. On its summit right over the Grotto is seen the ancient town of Posilippo which still contains a good many inhabitants; and the whole hill, on both sides, is studded over with beautiful seats and fertile vineyards.

Besides the excavation which is called the Grotto, there are several others, apparently of as great an extent, seen cut in different directions, from the sides of this passage, but whose mouths are all built up, or barricaded with wood. As the direction of these could not be for the sake of improving the road from the city to the campagna and neighbouring plain, some of them apparently running towards the very promontory itself, it struck me, that they might at one time have been quarries from which materials for building had been hewn in former times, though as yet I have not had an opportunity of comparing the stones of the more antique buildings, or ruins, with the strata which this hill embodies.

On examining different parts of the excavation, the sides of which are very smoothly cut and perpendicular, and other parts of the rock on the hill, I could see nothing like the granite, porphyry, or other harder rocks; but the whole appeared to be composed of a soft porous stone, somewhat resembling badly-baked brick, of a light brown colour, and which here gets the name of *Tufa.* Here and there portions of harder materials are seen sticking through it, and which resemble the harder kinds of lava. No effervescence takes place with acids, and I conjecture that the formation of these strata has been, at one time or other, considerably influenced by subterraneous heat, if their elevation into its present form is not wholly owing to the operation of such a cause combined with the presence and operations of water.

At the entrance of the Grotto is erected a slab, the inscription on which invites the passenger to peruse attentively the information which one of a more ancient sculpture will give him, and which is to be seen immediately under it, but which I had not time yesterday to read over.

After having walked through this astonishing subterraneous passage, and viewed its whole interior, we made our exit from its northern entrance into a fine level plain which is seen extending, in all the fertility of its vineyards, a mile further on, where it is bounded to the north by a ridge which, similar to that of Posilippo, also branches off from the high land of St Elmo, and runs towards the coast of Baia. On advancing a little way on, we came to a small village, when, finding our time would not admit of us lengthening our walk any further with my friends, I took advantage of a volunteer guide (of whom there are plenty always to be met with here) and, for the sake of variety, returned under his direction over the hill of Posilippo, and with the intention also of visiting the tomb of Virgil.

As this interesting spot is situated on the south side of the hill, we had a long, somewhat fatiguing, though otherwise pleasant ramble, before we reached it. Our path lay principally through vineyards; but though these, at this early season, had not yet opened their foliage, still, from the patches of peas, beans, flax, and other earlier plants, which were luxuriantly growing amongst them, these enclosures exhibited nothing like the backwardness of budding life in April at home. There in some places, the first crop was nearly gathered, and industry, under the favours of this genial clime, had anticipated all the leguminous produce of our tardier vegetation, ere the limber wreath of Bacchus had spread out its summer robes, or displayed its luscious nectar beneath them.

Having gained the summit on which stands the town of Posilippo, consisting of a few ancient houses and ruins, we had a good view of the neighbourhood of Baia, Pozzuoli, and the adjoining coast, with the Island of Ischia, and the distant Apennines. On this prospect, however, we did not lose much time, but descending the hill towards Naples, which with the whole bay, Vesuvius and its environs lay spread out before us, we soon reached the spot where the immortal author of the Æneid is reported to have been interred. By a marble slab stuck up over an antique-looking garden gate, and its inscription, the passing stranger is reminded of the place; and from the numbers, who from all countries have daily visited it, the door is seldom found without its porter—besides, a whole group of lazzaroni, or miserable beggars, never fail to break in upon the happy reveries of the classical enthusiast with their cries of want and importunate mendicity.

This gate is on the left hand coming down the hill, and on the side of a rather rough road not far from the bottom of the hill. Passing this, some of the people occupying the grounds, which are cropped as vineyards or gardens, led us on through a winding path among vine and mulberry trees; when, after reaching the brow of the hill, which overlooks the immense chasm of the Grotto, we descended by a flight of rude steps cut out of the rock, and were ushered into a little gallery on the side of the cliff, where the sepulchre stands.

Though the spot where it stands is surrounded by the natural walls of cliffs on two of its sides, yet, in the shape of a common arched vault, it appears to have been the work of the builder. It has a small door next the hill for its entrance, is about ten feet square inside, and arched over, with a window on the side opposite to the door which looks over the mouth of the Grotto of Posilippo. Externally, from the quantity of grass and number of wild flowers with which it is covered, it resembles a rude mound of earth, and so retired does it stand in its lofty and romantic niche that it cannot be seen by the visitor, until he is very near it. On that part of the hewn cliff, corresponding to its entrance, is inserted a stone slab, on which is to be read the following inscription: *Qui cineres tumuli hæc vestigia qui cicinit pascua rura. duces, Can. Reg. MLIIII.*

After pulling a few of the wild flowers, and picking off some of the stone from the tomb, as relics of the Bard, we left the place and gave room to other strangers who were approaching it, among whom were a great number of the fair sex, who, despite of all the commiseration he had drawn forth towards the sovereign of Carthage, or all the weakness of the sex which he exposed in his song, approached now in all the forgiving worth of their hearts, to breathe a tributary sigh to the memory of departed genius, and of him who had cast so much lustre on their country.

Descending the hill, not without some doubts of the authenticity of what I had now visited, we returned by the way of the Villa Reale to the Toledo, where, for an hour we amused ourselves in mixing with the crowd which thronged the streets. Being one of the holidays, the shops were shut, and not a carriage or vehicle of any description was to be seen throughout the city. Besides, every lazzaroni had then deserted the Toledo, and the decency and order of so many well-dressed people on such a day as this, rather tended to impress the stranger with a favourable opinion of the populace. Throughout the whole line of this street, which is about a mile in length, there was seen, towards evening, one mass of people moving in all the measured parade of Kensington Gardens, or the Park; and something like as in these places, they paced along in regular currents, one on each side of the street, and one central in the opposite direction. There are no plain stones exclusively for foot passengers; but the whole width of the street, being paved with large smooth flags of lava, it is equally the same where you walk except on other days when the carriages, of course, drive along the centre, which is in consequence more sunken than the rest of the pavement.

In dress the gentlemen resemble very much those of England, and more so, as the weather happened not to be cold. The costume of the fair sex, though not widely different, was, however, of a lighter and more dressed description, and what an English lady would scarcely venture further with than the precincts of the assembly or drawing-room. While instead of the precautionary envelope of the scarf, mantle, or shawl, little distrust appeared to be shown for their Elysian sky, and the mild zephyr had only to woo the fair bust through the airy meshes of the snow-white gauze.

Among the concourse of people which were seeing and to be seen, many faces struck me and my companions as being of British mould, which, indeed, they might have been, as this place is never without a great number of English. The military costume appeared numerous amongst them, and especially towards the King's Palace, and such is the number of officers and soldiers in all directions that one could have fancied themselves in a besieged town. The number of soldiers in the city and its environs, one of the Austrian officers told me, amounted to about 20,000; and under the safeguard of such a foreign body of troops, the sovereign, no doubt, thinks himself as safe from revolutionary eruption as some of his subjects do from that of the physical overflowings of Vesuvius. The occurrence of either indeed cannot often be anticipated by human foresight; in the former, however, the necessary materials of action must from all appearances, be more deficient; for whether from the peculiar circumstances of the climate, or moral constitution, the stranger is not struck with that appearance of ambitious, or restless activity, which could be moved into suddenly energetic revolt. All appear fitter devotees for the shrine of pleasure and ease than for wielding the sword of patriotism and conquest. No longer is the arm even nerved with the stern *virtus* of their ancestors, and though the lapse of ages has banished heathenism from their hemisphere, and every existence of nominal slavery along with it; as yet the *abortive* figure of Christianity, which has long since so powerfully obtained throughout the world, seems not to have called forth those examples of human industry and enterprise, the cultivation of which, we should hope, is not incompatible with the integrity of the more *catholic* religion of our countrymen.

In the less public part of Naples, one certainly sees labour diligently carried on in a variety of occupations and arts. Throughout the extent of such a large town, however, nothing of that bustling activity which characterises similar places in England is to be met with; the different inlets are not teeming with the heavily laden vehicles of commerce and trade, or the more immediate supplies of the market. Its lifeless-looking harbour and mole seem to possess little attraction for the merchandise of the foreigner; and the outskirts of the city appear long to have kept the same boundary, for little building goes on, and other wants than those of house property are found adequate for the employment of what gold may be passing through their hands. The want of this species of fixed property is what, I suppose, prevented the revolutionary party from holding their ground against foreign power, if we may judge from the sentiments of the common people, an idea of which may be formed from the reasons given by a waterman who once attended us, and who said, *if they had got so much more money they would not have turned their backs.* After partaking of a cup of coffee and some ices, we returned on board, about nine o'clock P.M., after being completely fatigued with our day's ramble.

CHAPTER IV

Stromboli—Scylla and Charybdis—Messina.

Off Cape Spartivento, Calabria, 15*th April* 1822. —After lying eleven days in the Bay of Naples, we weighed anchor and sailed for Corfu. It was late in the evening before we fairly started; and the wind also being light, the sight of all that was interesting on each side of the bay soon faded away, and by daylight we had cleared the Island of Capri.

The weather next day proved fine, though the wind veered about to rather an unfavourable point, but not so much so as to throw us far off our course, and by ten o'clock at night the blaze of Stromboli was seen emerging from the southern horizon like a dark red star which at intervals appeared completely extinguished; but instead of continuing like the friendly gleam of a revolving lighthouse, which at first it did, it gradually burst forth with increasing splendour; and before the coming day had eclipsed it, we came near enough to recognise all the flaming grandeur of its burning volcano. It is on the north-east side of the mount where the crater is situated, and some way from the summit,

STROMBOLI.

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though smoke is seen issuing forth at various points all around it, and rolling slowly down the declivity.

This mount, which is constantly burning, in size or grandeur cannot be compared with Vesuvius or Etna. Being without any circumjacent plain, or extended base, its conical head is seen emerging from the surrounding deep, and exhibits an appearance, such as might be conceived any of the above-mentioned mountains would, were their bases covered by the sea, and their conical summits only to be seen. Not being closer to it next day than about eight miles, we could only see that it was clothed with a considerable deal of verdure near the base, where in several places the houses of its peculiarly situated settlers, were seen shining white along the beach. The wind being lighter all day, we passed it very slowly, and when night again set in we had another opportunity of witnessing its fitful flame peering up on the beautiful sky of the North ; and though not appearing from the southward so large, yet so much of the flame was seen shooting up behind its dark profile, as to convince us how serviceable its beacon-light must be to the mariner who by it for centuries has directed his course by night through the neighbouring seas.

On the second morning it and the other isles of Lipari were still in sight, and which, as the Italian writer, the Abbate Turbo (?) says, in their scattered appearance, seemed as 'stepping-stones to the fancy, in its attempts to pass beyond the visible horizon.'

To the southward the coast of Sicily, to which we were fast approaching, was now becoming very distinct to the view; and peeping out of the upper outline of the clouds, which hung around it, the hoary top of Etna was seen covered with snow, and giving all that excitement to fancy, which such a sublime object of nature, at the great distance which it now was from us, must naturally produce. As the day advanced the breeze began to freshen up, and during the forenoon we quickly neared the coast of Calabria and its sister land, in our course for the Straits of Messina, which, shortly after mid-day, we entered with a fine leading wind. Unless the horrors of Scylla's dogs, and the giddy whirl of Charybdis, had been transmitted to us through the poetic beauties of the great Epic Bards, there is nothing now almost in the appearance of the Faro and its shores, to excite the poetic strains of a tuneful fancy, or bear out the Bard in the horrific communications of the Chaonian seer to the Trojan exile.

Pelorus and its dangers give not a thought to the modern seaman now that the domains of Neptune have been so fearlessly invaded by the hardy sons of Christendom.

The opening of Pelorus is only to be distinguished at a small distance from it; for as the channel of the Straits forms an angle with the course leading into them from the northward, the low shelving point of the Faro is locked in before the high land and precipitous shore of Calabria; and from the similarity of feature between the hills of either side, the long line of Sicilian shore appears continuous with that of the mainland to the eastward.

As we approached with the breeze, the white sandy beach of the Faro was seen gradually evolving itself to the right; and stretching from its projecting watch-tower to the thick-wooded base of the adjoining hills, at length formed a beautiful margin to the liquid plain before us.

The high land of Calabria, capped in some points with snow, swelled as quickly on the left, and, with its high woods and galleries, magnificently filled up the sphere of vision in that direction with all that picturesque grandeur which the maritime scenery of such a country is capable of presenting to the traveller.

The little town of Scylla, with its brown, rugged rock, was soon distinctly brought into view as the ship entered the Straits; and although from mid-channel its flinty jaws were not discernible, yet from its advanced situation, which flanks the northern entrance, it might easily be conceived what dangers it might present to the ill-managed barque that is swept out by the current, which sets out from the round sweep of the opposite coast, and basin of Charybdis.

About four o'clock in the afternoon we were off the Port of Messina, where the ship being hove to for some official intelligence, we had a good view of that city and its beautiful environs. Built mostly on the sloping base of the hills which fill up the background, it presents a very magnificent shore to the spectator from seawards, and the long line of white buildings and streets, in some parts interplanted with wide branching trees, formed a pleasing contrast with the dark green tints of the wooded hills which overlooked the whole.

An elevated part of the city which was open to our view was seen crowded with dressed people lounging about in all the licence of holiday ease and recreation. In the harbour, which is a deep basin, open to the northward, a good many vessels were lying, and among others, the colours of England were also seen waving her proud Union-Jack in the breeze. So situated, we lay to for an hour, enjoying the beautiful prospect which surrounded us. The afternoon was adorned with one of those soft coloured skies, which often mark the day's decline in this country, and when the sails were again filled with the breeze, which in a short time soon removed us far from such a scene, I confess that I felt all that regret which I am always compelled to experience on being forced to turn my eyes away from any of the fairer objects of nature.

The noise of the port was soon drowned in that of the wave which rippled around us, and with the wind from off the fair beach of Reggio, and its mountainous background, the Straits were soon hid from our view, and Trinacria again looked continuous with the coast of Calabria. Our destination being Corfu, this coast was kept close aboard, and before the sun had sunk from our hemisphere behind the aerial summit of Etna, the line of coast was dissolving fast in the blue hazy stratum of the distant horizon.

CHAPTER V

Zante—Gulf Patras—Rheum—Lepanto—Corinth.

CORINTH, GREECE, 25*th May* 1822.—Two nights ago we weighed from Zante to proceed for Corinth, and it being about sunset when we left the anchorage, and the sky perfectly serene and unclouded, we had a charming specimen of what the summer evenings in Greece generally are.

When the sails first filled in the breeze, which only served to raise a gentle curl on the expanse of sea before us, the dazzling splendour of the sun was about being extinguished behind the Dunta Fontana to the westward, and such was the shade thrown over this high land in consequence that the fair tints of its surface were scarcely discernible, except where it appeared chequered by the still darker shades of the tufted olive tree, with which this part of the island is richly adorned.

From its eastern situation in the island, the town was also enveloped in the deep shadows of the citadel, its hill, and the adjoining high land which stretches round in the rear towards the promontory above noticed. The glowing ray of the declining sun was still seen gilding the summit of the hill situated more to the southward, and, but for the towering gibbet with its blackened load of lifeless mortality which sheds terror from its summit, the hill was now a beautiful object behind the town, all which, with the high and verdant land which bounded the bay to the southward, with its numerous vineyards and buildings, eked out a piece of scenery behind us, of which none but a Mediterranean shore can exhibit the like.

The rest of the circuit was filled up by the distant land of the Peloponesus, and the seat of Olympia, with the high hills of Cephalonia and that of Ithaca before us, and as the sun went down behind the promontory of Zante, such was the beautiful vistic refraction of his rays all round the horizon, and the relief which the eye experienced on being carried towards the darkening zenith, that the hemisphere appeared encircled by a zone, exhibiting all the prismatic colours of the rainbow, from the deep red to the faint purple, and which seemed to enclasp the setting sun as its peerless and resplendent gem.

As the breeze was favourable we soon distanced the port we had left, and, although before we sailed the sun had sunk from our view behind the intervening hill, yet such was the velocity with which the breeze propelled us along the placid

Ionian wave, that we again caught his weeping radiance beyond the Punta Fontana, before his light fled from the shores of the Morea. With another man-of-war, and our convoy of Greek prisoners in company, we stood on quickly to the northward, and after keeping the deck until a fine night with its cool breeze had set in under the auspicious light of Diana, I retired to rest.

Though pleased with the service I was attached to, and the country to which we belonged, yet I felt for the unfortunate sufferers of such a beautiful country, who, though now returning with us to their homes and friends, were returning from the miseries of an enemy's prison-hold to habitations which the blessings of social peace had deserted, and where each moment must still see them gird on the bloody weapons of war, nor bring with it aught of domestic security to their precarious possessions.

Yesterday morning we had reached the mouth of the Gulf of Petrasso, when the wind died away and it became nearly a calm. Soon afterwards the breeze sprang up from the westward, and a small fleet of vessels was discovered lying at anchor under the northern shore, and which afterwards proved to be a Greek squadron that was blockading the Straits of Lepanto.* As soon as they saw us, a brig-of-war got under weigh and stood towards our convoy which was some miles ahead of us. From a gun being fired from the frigate, and our showing English colours, the stranger altered his course, bore down to us, and sent a boat on board. It was manned by stout raw-boned men in the Greek costume, and all well-armed with sabres and pistols. The officer was averse to our entering the Straits, and especially when he knew some Turks of Agia were in tow in a boat, who had been left by accident at Zante on the sailing of their vessel. After some explanation, the Greeks pulled back to their vessel, which was a brig, apparently not numerously manned, but carrying ten or twelve guns, and very well rigged.

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* Greek War of Independence, began April 1821.

Standing on, we soon left the hills of Cephalonia and Ithaca far in our rear, and had a good view of the land on either side of the Straits, which is very high and mountainous in the distance, but rich and well-wooded towards the shores. On the right side the town of Petrasso was seen with its castle and mountain crowned with snow, and the long line of the green feathered beech towards Agia.

Patras, situated at the base of Panachaikog, has always been a place of much importance from its position, being one of the keys of the Gulf of Corinth. It is about a mile from the shore, and anciently had walls extending to the port, of which there are yet some obscure remains. A great many antique ruins are still the object of classical curiosity. Diana was much worshipped here, probably from the forests in the neighbourhood; though, now, alas, nothing but ruin, filth, mud houses, insignificant churches and mosques, in a state of dilapidation, are to be seen. The brave and robust Achaians are also changed for a population of black slaves, and of degenerate Greeks much disposed to the disease of rickets.

The fort which guards these narrow Straits, was, in the more renowned ages of this country, called the promontory of Rheum; and near it once existed a town called by the same name, but no remains of which, I believe, are now to be seen; though numerous ruins were seen, differing much in appearance from those of the town, which has lately been dilapidated by the present Gothic combatants.

About three o'clock P.M. we passed through the Straits, and as the ship hove to, while the Turkish boat was sent on shore, we had time to see all that could be seen in a close but cursory view. Right over the ruined town and fort a few tents were seen pitched on a commanding eminence in which a body of Greeks were encamped over against the Turks, whose blood-red flag was seen flying on the battlements of the fort, and among the few vessels at anchor under its walls. From all accounts, they were in a state of starvation, all communication with any regular supplies being cut off by the insurgents both by sea and land.

On the other side of the Straits, which is only about 1½ miles across, is another little fort on a long neck of land, formerly called Antirheum, and also occupied by the Turks, who are also in possession of Lepanto, a town situated on the same side, somewhat farther within the Straits, and where several vessels could be seen lying at anchor.

Lepanto is walled all round, and is built on the base of the mountainous barrier, here called Regani, which on this side is very lofty and wild, and presents all round this place one of the boldest shores I have seen. Lepanto is the ancient Naupactus, which the temples of Diana, Neptune, and Esculapius once adorned, but of which no traces remain. About five o'clock we again made sail with the wind at west, and before sunset had nearly got abreast of that promontory next to Fort Agia, where the poet Hesiod was said by the historian to have been buried.*

During the night we had, from the finely favourable breeze, run well up the gulf; and by the time I first visited the deck in the morning, the distant land which formed the Isthmus of Corinth, and the bottom of the gulf, were discernible through the haze of the morning, which was fair and unclouded. To the southward the hills in the background were high, and covered with snow in some patches; but their height gradually diminished towards the shore, which at this place had lost its rugged margin, and began to exhibit a smooth line of white sand. Between the beach and the distant slope of the hilly ridge was seen the western extremity of a beautiful and extensive plain stretching all round this part of the bay towards the neighbourhood of Corinth and the isthmus. Our course being near the southern shore, we only could see that the distant land of the northern side was still more hilly than this one, and though indented with several bays, it all along presented a bolder and more precipitous shore. In the course of the forenoon, the citadel and hill, as well as the town of Corinth, was brought into sight, and in a few hours we came to an anchor within about a mile of the beach near the town.*

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* Turkish Fleet taken, October 1571, by Allies.

The scenery presented here a strange contrast between the barrenness of the lofty precipice and the distant hills covered with snow, and the natural fertility of this seemingly neglected gallery or plain. The tints of the surface, though not so lively as those which the more rapid and transitory vegetation of the north exhibits; yet the degree of softness with which they were reflected was so much in keeping with that of the azure sky, that their beauty without any glare seemed delicately rich, and delighted with a warm and glowing freshness the approaching eye of the beholder.

The present town is situated on the expanding declivity of that hilly ridge which bounds the view to the southward, and which is elevated in the rear, and at the distance of two miles beyond it into the lofty and commanding castle hill or acropolis. On this ancient fortress now floats the standard of

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* Siege of Corinth by Turks, January 1822.

Greek Independence which was hoisted this summer after the crimson flag had waved from its white crest for a century since the expulsion of every Christian. In times now almost fabulous, this place served as the link which bound Grecia Magna with the Peloponesus; now it is become, in 1822, the rallying point for the regenerate Grecians of modern days, and is the seat of their provisionary government at present.

At the distance of about three miles from the port, throughout its whole circuit, the town makes very little show, and appears like large clumps of scattered villages. In consequence of the late insurrection, the principal houses of the Turks have been thrown down, and the number of houses unroofed and in ruins appeared as numerous as those which had not suffered. Towering up amidst the roofless walls was seen the remains of a mosque with a considerable segment of the cupola standing; which, with the dilapidated palace of Hamel Bay, now a prisoner in the citadel, formed the most conspicuous objects of modern ruin. Of the antique, several immense pillars are still standing, a monument of Grecian architecture, being the remains of the ancient temple of Minerva.

The boundary of the town is formed by long white lines of disjointed walls, and in such a place in its present unguarded state, the inhabitants must trust more to their number and physical force than to their fortifications. The number of people it contains is indeed very great; and especially since the commencement of the late dreadful massacres, from which numbers have fled to Corinth and other places of refuge to avoid the remorseless hands of their enemies and the edge of the fatal scimitar. Every man about the place appears armed, and are apparently eager to qualify themselves for the field, for they are seen here and there practising in groups with the musket and pistol at a target, for which some of them use the skull of a horse or an ass. They are in general an active, hardy, and good-looking race of people, though in the eye of an Englishman their costume appears very grotesque for that of a soldier. They all wear a scarlet or black skull cap, with a scarf bandeau of various colours. Their heads are shaved in front; but the hair, which is long and dark, is allowed to grow behind, and is pinned, or fastened up behind their head-dress. The rest of their dress is composed of light materials of various gaudy colours, and consists of a vest bound round the middle by many turns of a long sash or scarf, over which is worn a short and embroidered jacket, which hangs loosely on the shoulders, being without buttons or collar. These with the petticoat breeches, the baskins or light cloth slippers, complete the remainder of the dress.

Every man has a pair of pistols, with a sword, or rather straight knife, called ataghan, stuck in the front of his sash, and two small cartouch boxes slung behind, and a musket in his hand. From the captain to the drummer, they all use tobacco, and the former is seen stalking along with a little boy behind carrying his long Turkish pipe.

The citadel which crowns the hill above is an extensive place, and no doubt in the hands of people possessed of money and talent, might soon be made a redoubtable tenement. Its high precipices are eked out with strong walls, formed in part of Cyclopean architecture, which are seen encircling all the summit of the hill; and within their enclosures are accommodations for a strong body of men, and most excellent wells of water which flow down through the town.

The hill, which is chiefly hard marble and calcareous rock, affords the natives an inexhaustible supply of building materials. At the port are only a few houses with the custom-house also partly in ruins. There are generally a few vessels lying, by which the place is supplied with corn and bread from other ports. For the necessaries of life I suppose they are chiefly indebted to importation or commerce; though the soil appears susceptible of tolerable cultivation, and the champagne lands are very extensive in the neighbourhood of the town, and round towards the isthmus. There the ridge of hills is seen terminating, and the low land, above mentioned, is all that is seen bounding the view to the eastwards, and where are some ruins and the situation of the ancient wood of Cranaé.

Carrying the eye a little farther north, the commencement of Megara's 'rocky district' is seen, raising its irregular outline behind the hills, and running inland from the point of Agrillia. Wood does not appear to abound much around Corinth, though at some distance off, the olive is seen tufting the hilly surface and intermixing with the grey shades of the rocky herbage.

What strange reflections this place awakens; its miserable aspect would never cause it to be thought to have been the city of pleasure; no longer the famous temple of Venus, with her licentious priesthood, now attracts the rich and the gay of all nations; nor does the courtesan Lais throw the fetters of her seduction in the midst of incense-breathing groves, and clothed in the riches and splendour of Asia. I dare say the Corinthians of the present day have more need of the reproof of the Apostle in this respect, that they can be commended, as their ancestors were by him, for their forwardness in pecuniary contributions, arising from a wealth as great as their poverty is now conspicuous. It will be well if, in a political view 'there be no enemies among you (them), but that ye (they) be perfectly joined together in the same mind.' It may be mentioned, that the Archbishopric of Corinth boasts of its origin from the first period of Christianity, and of being more ancient than the See of Rome itself.

CHAPTER VI

Santa Maura Island—Observations—Views.

Santa Maura, Ionian Islands, 30*th June* 1822. —On the 29th ult. we weighed anchor and stood up the gulf of Corinth. The wind being rather to the westward, we had often a near view of the south shore on the ship standing in towards the land; and as I formerly mentioned, the richness of the country becomes the more revealed the closer it is approached.

During the night the wind shifted to the eastward, and by seven o'clock next morning we had reached the narrow part of the gulf, and were not more than twenty miles from the entrance. Running under easy sail and with the water smooth as a mill pond, the forenoon's run was particularly interesting. Being close to the south shores, all its classical imagery was disclosed to our view, which we had not wholly seen from our running in during the night time. The shore all along is not bounded by much rock, but though backed closely, in most places, by very high, though beautiful steep hills, is marked by a smooth, sandy margin all around, more resembling the banks of some inland lake than a maritime coast. The hills are separated by fine wooded ravines, in several places of which the yellow subsoil, or sand of the hill, is seen reflecting back its soft shades between, and marking where the mountain torrent at times has its course. To the very beach the shore is covered with evergreen woods, chiefly aromatic and pitch pines; and in many places the foliage is seen dipping from the verdant brink into the placid wave which ripples beneath. It would, no doubt, be more gratifying to antiquary to traverse this shore, see the seat of the ancient Aguim, the modern convent of Megaspelion, and the ancient Bena, where Hercules delivered his oracles, in a grotto now, I believe, to be seen, and which is nearly opposite to the more celebrated one of Delphi on the other side of the gulf.

Early in the forenoon the town of Lepanto was seen spread out on its hilly declivity, and with a beautiful breeze we passed the castle of the Morea about one o'clock, and soon again brought the great fleet in sight at their anchorage on the north side of the Gulf of Patras, as vigilant as they had before shown themselves.* They no sooner observed us but two sloops of war got under weigh and stood out to meet us in a very menacing attitude; but with the intention no doubt of reconnoitring what the English schooner then in company with us was, and which had joined us at Corinth for a convoy outwards. From intelligence gained respecting some of the Ionian vessels reported to have been detained by them, but which proved afterwards unfounded, the captain made sail also to their squadron. To be prepared for contingences in the event of any collision taking place, the ship was cleared for action, and the men kept at their quarters, until the satisfactory information was gained, and sail again made from amongst them, which nearly occupied three hours.

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* Turkish Fleet destroyed, 7 Oct., 1571, by Allies.

With the convoy of Turkish prisoners we stood away to the northward, parting company with the schooner and the other man-of-war which went for the Island of Zante. The fair wind soon failed us, and it was either variable or lighter as we ran along the eastern side of Penelope's Island, and among the little neighbouring isles. In whatever direction we turned land was seen. To the northward was Santa Maura, formerly Leucadia, and one time said to have been connected with the mainland, as may be inferred from Virgil, '*Leucatæ nimbosa cacumina montis.*' The southernmost promontory is also in sight, which is supposed to be the fatal spot where Sappho finished her days, and is called the 'Lover's Leap.' There is every reason also to suppose, from the annual feasts here held in honour of Apollo, whose temple crowned the summit, that human sacrifices propitiated the barbarous superstition of the occasion, and that some unfortunate or criminal female was regularly condemned to be flung from the dreadful precipice. It is certainly remarkable for the precipice it presents to the sea. It is very perpendicular, and so lofty that a vessel sailing close in shore appears, relatively, very little. We were not, of course, able to certify what the strata of these cliffs were at such a distance, but from their light appearance and shelving form, it is more likely they are of similar soft potter's earth, or conglomerate with the cliffs of Cape Bianca in Corfu, which have the same aspect, namely, to the south and westward.

We came to anchor off Santa Maura on the 28th June 1822; from the wind being against us it was rather a tedious job to get up to the anchorage, but it was very interesting; for during the reaches made in shore, while beating up the ship, the whole line of the Albanian shore came under our view. Similar to its neighbouring island, it is remarkably bold; and at no distance almost from the smooth beach skirted by the green myrtle, the swell of the mountain begins, and gradually starting up from the lovely verdure of its loamy base, soon assumes the varied tints of the precipice. Its elevated outline and cloud-washed summit fills the quickly wearied eye of the spectator beneath, with as much of the wild sublimities of Nature, as does the beautiful sky which surmounts it, and by which it is softened, delight with all that is placid and serene among the great objects of vision. Near the beach some trees of cultivation were seen, which, as we approached the shore, gradually extended, yet they were mere specks when compared with the wide range of barren hills then spread out before us.

On approaching the anchorage, the two shores of the island and main gradually approximated, with their hilly backgrounds presenting an appearance similar to what has been above described; while to the northward are seen the very narrow channel running between them, and the situation of the town of Santa Maura. The separation does not admit of any vessel, but only boats passing through; and in some places indeed it can be forded on foot. I have been up the island a few miles, and from the rough paths we had to take was very tired on my return. The island differs much from that of the others, excepting Ithaca, for it is very mountainous, wild, and not so rich; though where the rock is at all covered with soil, which is of a light nature, the currant, grape, cotton, and Indian corn grow quite luxuriantly, and they are a great deal cultivated near the shores and in the valleys.

Like the rest, this island contains much limestone rock, but a very great proportion of the rocks on the shore and lower hills were of a conglomerate nature, in which nodules of different coloured flint and other stones were mixed up with a porous limestone, and presented a very rough, but extremely hard surface. Immense masses of this rock, in some places 20 feet in length, were piled on each other in all the most rude and gigantic forms imaginable; while in other places they were arranged like pillars near each other, and tufted over with green myrtle, giving the face of the hill an appearance as if defaced with the hoary ruins of some gigantic buildings, or giant's dungeon-keep. On inspecting such fragments of *terra firma*, the Neptunist might certainly throw in some claims for the rock-building powers of his watery sovereign, but I think it would be difficult for him to prove that his Plutonic competitors had nothing to do with it, and might very likely allow that he had a finger in the piework.

On the hill about a mile from the town are seen the ruins of the ancient city of Leucas, and from which spot there is the finest view in the island, embracing Corfu, Paxos, and Antipaxos, the coasts of Acarnania, Prevesa, and even the snowy summit of Pindus.

CHAPTER VII

Ithaca Island—Soil—Aspect—Peasantry—Currants—Ruins.

IONIAN ISLANDS, ITHACA, *20th August* 1822.—At an early hour this morning we bade adieu to the Port of Tiacchi; where for three days we had been lying at anchor, embayed by those sunburnt hills, from which the Grecian hero had been so long exiled, either by the decrees of fate, or to suit the machinery of the immortal magician. Be this as it may, there is much to interest the stranger in this island, independent of its claims for classical notoriety; for its port presents one of the most secluded and hidden spots that can possibly be imagined, and the natural fertility of the soil, wherever it exists, is rich, and with little trouble throws up the most luxuriant crops of grapes, currants, olives, and corn.

On approaching the land, however, the visitor would naturally, from the rocky hills and shores, form different ideas of it, and must be on the spot to be convinced of its productiveness. The island, which is only about ten miles in length, is a congeries of hills, barren in the extreme towards their summits, and not covered with the least verdure; and even farther down, with the exception of a few straggling olives, exhibiting their characteristic and perennial colour, it appears that little or no vegetation would naturally show itself. Every hilly declivity is covered with loose stones to the very base almost, while their summits exhibit one mass of grey, serrated rocks, which, principally belonging to the limestone class, are seen cropping the ground in every direction. The soil among the loose masses of stone though light is very firm; is not apt by the heat to crumble into dust, and resembles very much what is to be seen among old forests and woods in England, and seems principally formed of the remains of vegetable matter. Every advantage has been taken of it wherever it exists, and the different masses of loose stones have all been thrown up into walls, or galleries, one over another round the hills, on which the soil has been cleared and spread out for the cultivation of the grape, currant, or different sorts of grain.

The valleys are very few and not very extensive; that running up from the basin of the port being the largest and most luxuriant in the island—presenting one entire garden of vines, etc., for about two miles in length, and it is carefully enclosed by stone walls, a material which the surface amply supplies. The port, situated on the north part of the island, affords a very snug and good anchorage even for ships of great draught of water; but being surrounded by very high hills it is no doubt subject to heavy gusts of wind.

The basin, which is about a mile long and half-a-mile in breadth, is very deep (in some places 17 fathoms), and bounded by very bold shores; and such is the small breadth of the channel in, and its winding direction through, the hills, which completely shut in the harbour, that not a sound of the Ionian wave is to be heard from the anchorage, but only the rural din of the vineyard, which scarcely breaks in on the secluded quiet of the little community.

The town, which is very considerable, consists of a few straggling lines of indifferently looking houses, stretching round the bottom of the basin; and although a number of little vessels were lying at anchor round the beach, yet, on landing, there is nothing to be seen like the busy throng of a commercial port.

In their dress and appearance it would appear that the Ithacans consider the *utile* of life as the only desideratum; and that a modern Penelope would be less able to hold forth any other inducement than that of her charms, to the fascinated nobles of Ionia and Greece, though the wine-cup, indeed, might be as liberally filled as it ever was at the ancient queen's banquet, for the grape is the prime staple of the island.

The peasantry much resemble those of the neighbouring isles, though not so good-looking, being of various descent, and they wear nearly the same costume. Having one day taken a lengthened walk over the island, I had an opportunity of seeing them employed at their rural labour which then principally consisted in cutting their grapes and currants, and spreading them out round their cottages to dry in the sun. This process generally takes about a week or ten days, after which they are cleaned and picked, and then winnowed in the breeze, in the same manner as they would do corn, when they are sacked, and ready for the market.

From the number of windmills seen covering all the little heights, and lower range of hills, it would appear that they live a good deal on the produce of the island, and that they prepare corn themselves for use. Flax is cultivated also, and females both old and young are seen busy at the distaff and spindle in the manufacture of thread, and it is especially the general employment of the aged, whom you will frequently meet travelling out the different roads busily working at this occupation. The scenery round the harbour may be taken notice of as exhibiting much of the wild picturesque imagery on a small scale.

To the southward, on the beach, you have the little straggling town with the fine valley of gardens and vineyards stretching backwards in its rear towards several little hills, which in this direction are the most retired and bound the view with their rocky summits, crowned with the busy windmills. To the eastward, the smooth beach of white limestone and marble debris, is more closely eked out by the bold rising swell of the hills, whose bases, garnished with its different green galleries of the loaded vine, rest on the beach; while, at no great height or distance, their grey conical summits are seen bounding the view. The scenery which fills up the circle differs little from the last, save that farther to the eastward you can trace, by the relative appearance of the hills, which lock in with each other, where the passage winds outwards, and that the hills on the northward are more lofty and precipitous. Towards the higher ridge, from the extensive ruins of brick houses and cottages seen topping over you, there must have been the site formerly of the village or town, though now deserted for the less elevated and more cultivated districts already noticed.

Besides these ruins which do not appear to be very ancient, and supposed to be those of a church, there is on the summit of one of the hills, called Aito, or the Eagle, which flanks the entrance to the harbour on the left, the remains of some very antique buildings, where the Palace of Ulysses is said to have been situated. Though a number of people belonging to the ship were at the trouble and fatigue of ascending the hill to see the Windsor of ancient days, I was contented with a distant view of them, but was informed they were very curious from the immense masses of stone of which the walls crowning the hill is composed; and in consequence of which it has been called the Cyclopean wall. This country does not appear much calculated for the accommodation of such a gigantic race, as are reported to have once occupied Trinacriæ, and such a conjecture but ill accords with the classical tradition of this port being the rendezvous for the sea-nymphs of poetic fancy, for whom a more sequestered or concealed abode could scarcely have been chosen by any inspired agent for the mythological deities. The Cyclopean architecture, to speak more gravely, only bespeaks the most ancient kind of structure, as at Myconé and Tyrinthé; though it does appear that the builders, Cyclops or not, were possessed of some mechanical means of equal if not of superior power to any which we have in these improved times of light labour and elegance.

CHAPTER VIII

Arrival Malta—Valetta.

MALTA, *October 20th*, 1822. — Although the cloudless day and long evening had ceased to lighten up the Isles of Ionia and its motherland, and the weather was gradually assuming the more fragile and varied feature of an opposite season, still, before we left the coast of Epirus, and for a time bade adieu to its land of green myrtle, nothing like the strong winds of winter had yet visited us; and the southerly declining sun often maintained all the temperance and beauty of summer, from its earliest dawn to his departure in the west. The last of the isles which we saw was Zante, and richly beautiful as that island is in its great central vale and rich groves of green olive trees, so did we leave it smiling under the redundancy of its gathered crops, and its fresh budding hopes of the future; and while gently we were wafted along between it and the Morea, it was displayed to us in all its insular pride, by as beautiful a day as ever illumined the heavens. So coy, however, was the breeze, as if softened by the very myrtle through which it had been wafted, that it was long before the island was distanced to our view, and for the greater part of the day, we were moving at no great distance from the rude line of white cliffs, with which the southern shore meets the African wave.

As night approached and obscured the fair scene from our view, the breeze gradually freshened up, and the rude winds of the ocean soon snatched us away to encounter the perils of their open career. The last rays of the evening sun were just seen on the distant outline of Zacynthus and the Morea when the light wandering clouds (which had been seen following up the day's career in the west, and in their constantly varying forms and beauty bedecking out that part of the hemisphere) soon became thickly embodied before us; and instead of the silvered smile which they exhibited at sunset, now brooded the blackest curtain of the night, and seemed only ominously waiting to burst in all the terrors of the thunderstorm over our heads. Fortunately, however, they passed to the southward of us, and, in the very rapid and long-continued discharge of electric fire with which they continued to lighten up the heavens, became for some hours objects of the most magnificent, if not of awful contemplation.

Insulated by themselves, over the wide expanse of sea, and far from the mountain's peak, or any elevated object, these vehicles of nature's fire, or concentrated electricity, had not an object to wreak their wrath on, but in various parts appeared at war with each other, and were launching their glowing bolts of liquid fire at every little body of wandering vapour that approached them. This commotion appeared in some measure to be kept up by the breeze which was then blowing, for the forms of the clouds were constantly changing, as was seen by the clear lambent flame, which every two seconds kept playing around the whole electric mass, and by its illuminating effect changing as often the dark profile of the cloud into a glowing body of light, around which every star was extinguished to the eye of the beholder in the sombre ether of night. No thunder accompanied this lightning, perhaps from the circumstance mentioned above, or else from the formation of rain not taking place. From the rapid manner in which the breeze was driving us along, these interesting objects were fast diminishing to our view, but even at a late hour they were observed contending throughout their aerial tract, in all the fiery discord of their insulated situation.

The weather, though squally, proved favourable for our passage to Malta, and on the third morning afterwards the island was in sight, and we were safely anchored in the quarantine harbour of Valetta, before nine o'clock A.M., the same day. Accustomed as we had been to the verdant scenery of Corfu, and the olive-clad mountains of Greece, the low rocky outline of this island had a most barren and uninviting appearance, and were its history unknown, one would naturally have concluded that on no such rock could man meet with any inducement to reside, and far less would it have been thought that the possession had been contended for with all the energy of religious heroism ; and that walls had been raised on it which laughed to scorn the overwhelming power and wrath of Mahomet, and preserve to this day what he wished to have swept from the earth.

Of the all importance of the place the stranger is soon convinced on approaching it ; for the elevated churches and thick groups of buildings with which the island is covered, soon disclose themselves, here and there rearing up their summits in the full pride of architectural beauty. The approach to Valetta is a very pretty sight, and especially in a morning when the early sun illuminates it as rising out of the waves in all the impregnability of its mass of walls and sea-beaten ramparts. It then presents a most singular, though beautiful, appearance ; for, unlike the more verdant outline of most other islands, or lofty profile of hills, around which the works of art in the distance are entirely lost, matter bursts at once from the horizon in its showy architecture. On nearing the port, the city of Valetta presents a noble and imposing appearance with its ramparts and walls springing up from the waves, and its palaces and streets piled up behind each

VALETTA HARBOUR AND FORTS.

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other; while not a rocky spot within the walls is seen uncovered by buildings; all of which, from the nature of the stone, reflect strongly the light; and when seen from sea-ward at sunrise looks like the gilded mass of some fancy-built city.

CHAPTER IX

Baia—Lucrina—Solfaterra—Ruins.

BAIA BAY, NAPLES, 10*th December* 1822. — On Monday the 3rd Dec., with a fair wind, though unsettled weather, we bade once more adieu to Naples; and I, while congratulating myself on the few pleasant and interesting jaunts I had enjoyed in its neighbourhood with my companions, looked forward with quite different feelings to the few chances our old station at Corfu would afford us of such happiness. At Naples we considered ourselves moving along with all the world, and at times were spectators of what keeps up both far and near such pleasurable interest in it. Among the Ionian Isles, however, on the contrary we find ourselves, as it were, thrown in the background, or left far behind the energetic throng of society, striving through the medium of the friendly sheet, or newspaper, to keep pace with its different movements.

With such thoughts as these, I saw the canvas again unfurled to the breeze, which soon bore us away, and hid the fair mass of Parthenope from our view. The wind soon proved unpropitious for the voyage, though propitious in the extreme for myself and other lovers of novelty; for, with the black lowering clouds in the west, the weather soon assumed a very gloomy appearance to seaward, and without attempting to brave out the gale (which soon got up) round the stern brows of Capri and the Circean rocks, the ship was put before the wind; and, in a few hours, was snugly embayed under the lofty castle of Baia, in all the comforts of that sheltered and beautiful little bay. I had often heard of the beauties of this anchorage descanted on by those who had formerly seen it, and on our entering it, the admirable scenery seen spreading round the bay, soon convinced me of the justice with which they had been induced to admire it. Setting aside all consideration of those recorded beauties, which on the authority of the poet, or historian, had at one time drawn together the gay world from Rome to revel under its genial clime in all their darling luxuries and ease.

The circuit of Baia Bay, including the coast between Cape Misenum and Nisita Island, may be about ten or eleven miles in extent. At this season of the year it looked rather in its doleful weeds, though the verdure which clothed even the very summit of the hills was a sufficient earnest of the amenity of the climate, and left to Fancy to conceive what unparalleled scenery it must present in the gayer seasons of the year. So capable of cultivation is the ground, that throughout the hills in the neighbourhood, not a rock is to be seen cropping out on the surface, and wherever the soil has proved worthy the labour of the husbandman, it is clothed with the vine.

The prospect from the anchorage is as comprehensive as it is beautiful, and in point of interest is a perfect study for the painter as well as for the classical amateur or antiquarian. To the northward, a low sandy beach forms the foreground and separates the bay from the famed Lake of Lucrina, while a little more in the rear the chestnut tree and poplar are seen embellishing the distant banks of this mirror, and mixing with a long line of vineyards and rocks stretching on towards Avernus, where they are lost between the hills which intervene in that direction. A partial glimpse of this lake is caught through the vista leading on from Lucrina, and as its banks are pastoral and rich, so were the merry flocks browsing on its banks and enjoying the secluded quiet of their pasture and fold.

Behind this the view is bounded by Mount Barbaro; Monte Nuova, and a lofty green ridge which terminates, to the eastward, beyond Pozzuoli, in the more elevated and irregular summit of Solfaterra, where the declivities of the blanched pumice stone and lava, point out to the spectator the ancient vomitary of that extinguished volcano. The verdure still clings to its sides, and numerous ruins which the lapse of ages has buried and again disinterred, now stand as monuments, calling forth from our bosoms no less of humility than of pride ; for while we contemplate the happy advancement of the age we live in, we cannot but be humbled with the retrospect of human events, and with the fate of those who have in many different ages been swept out of time by the dreadful visitations alluded to. This place to the Christian also has an interest beyond what even the beauties of nature or of art can create. From this bay the intrepid Apostle of the Gentiles first set his foot on the shores of Italy, and while he tarried the seven days at Pozzuoli, no doubt, had many a reflection, and made some observation on the structures and beauties of the place so ignobly dedicated to the refined whims of luxury and sensuality, instead of to the worship of his God who made the earth and all that it contains.

But to return. This part of the panorama is greatly enriched by the ancient town of Pozzuoli, which is seen with its white buildings and towers stretching up from the shore round the base of Solfaterra, and, in spite of time and the dreadful convulsions in which its sister cities have perished, now stands a fair remnant of antiquity, while others have only been replaced by the miserable hut of the shepherd or vine-dresser.

Carrying the eye further on to the eastward, the long green ridge of Posillipo in the more softened hues of the distance is seen terminating the land in that direction; while peering up behind it the dark summit of Vesuvius appears, disgorging its black fumes on the face of day, which, committed to the breeze, become lengthened out from the turbulence of their first exit into a long line of settled clouds, vieing in everything but in hue, with the vapours of heaven.

Turning round to the opposite side of the bay the view is not so extensive, but comes more under the eye, and presents a range of scenery both singular and picturesque; for what with the ruins of ancient terraces, villas, temples, and streets, the eye is tired in beholding the debris of other ages, and feels pleased to rest again on the less splendid roofs of modern structure. Volcanic as the strata of this soil are supposed to be, so is the ground about Baia thrown up into a variety of hilly ridges and heights, on which the soil appears to possess much natural fertility. This chain of elevated land, from its contiguity to the beach, constitutes one peculiarity in this part of the coast, and the charms of its little galleries and wooded recesses, hung so closely over the waves, in a great part accounts for its having been dedicated by the ancients as a favourite site for their altars and temples, as well as for their luxurious baths and marine villas. There they could have enjoyed themselves, safely sheltered from the piercing blasts off the Apennine ridge, and with a perspective range of the most pleasing marine scenery which could be possibly wished for.

The present Castle of Baia, which has rather a venerable appearance, occupies the summit, or rather one of the promontories of the irregular ridges of land already mentioned. Near it a few scattered houses are seen, its miserable companions of the soil ; but what chiefly attracts the eye from on ship-board, is the numerous ruins of antiquity, shooting up among the native shrubberies and vineyards, their white stuccoed walls, their broken arches of red porcelain, and ruined pavilions, over all which the ivy now triumphantly expands its dark foliage. Of these may be mentioned the Temples of Venus, Diana, and Mercury, which are situated between the castle and Lucrina, where the advanced ridge of land which screens them to the northward begins.

The situation of the first of these ruins being the most open, advanced, and nearest to the beach, well-fitted the celebration of that Deity's festivals, and in its ostensible situation was of a piece with her relative character. That of Diana, however, occupies, more chastely, a very retired recess in the hill, and from the height of its ruined dome, had never emulated in either its varied aspect or loftiness, the walls of her next door neighbour. Besides these ruins, not a single declivity, either over or around them, but what is occupied by others of a minor description ; and on the face of each little cliff unscreened by the wild herb or vine, even down to the beach, does the stuccoed arch, or mosaic-covered walls, present themselves to the view, and give an idea of the beautiful and amphitheatrical situation of the ancient city; and of the charms its fairy marine galleries exhibited of old.

Turning the view beyond Baia Castle, the land presents a similar feature to that between it and Lucrina, though from its distance, none of its curiosities are visible; and running over a long range of retiring vineyards and little hills, the eye at length rest on the lofty summit of Misenum; beyond which, in the distance, the clear blue hills of Ischia are seen filling up the background.

CHAPTER X

Messina—Etna—Marino—Monastery View.

MESSINA, SICILY, 16*th December* 1822. — We had been out four days from Baia, and passing the Lipari Isles at about the distance we formerly did in the spring, when the morning of the fifth day afforded me a sight which I shall never forget; it was the appearance which Etna presented at sunrise. When I first went on deck the shades of night had scarcely been dispelled from the hemisphere, though the dawn was fast advancing in the east, and stole over the sky with an imperceptible rapidity — there not being one cloud in the clear face of the heavens to reflect to the earth the earlier beams of the dawn. In a short time after the young day began to smile, but long before a single ray of its light had illumined any other object, the snow-covered summit of Etna had caught the blushing light of Aurora, which, reflected back to the eye in the most beautifully chaste radiance, formed with the darkened profile, over which its purple car surmounted, one of the most magnificent and grand contrasts that could possibly be witnessed in Nature. All the lower hills on either side of the mountain, with the whole line of the Sicilian coast beneath, and the site of Faro and the Calabrian heights, formed under this mountain's illumined crown one general dark curtain, towards which the ship was gently moving over the sombre ripple, which was curling around us with the cool breeze of the morning. Without any object then to arrest the eye, it was carried over this intervening space of some fifty miles, and might without confusion of image canvass the whole summit of this tremendous volcano; and, as through a darkened tube, trace its elevated cone down to where it becomes indented, or lost in the darker hues of the woody regions.

It was a particularly favourable moment for such a sight, for at a certain range of temperature in some seasons of the year, the constitution of the air is such as either to admit of no vapours or other visible bodies being buoyed in it, and rather improves than destroys its transparency; so was it then extremely pure, and the sun had not reached the plains, nor had the vapours of heaven been roused by his heat from their moist beds on the bosom of the deep. The calm glory of this natural scene, however, soon gave place to the overpowering blaze of day; and the isolated beauty of this sublime object was soon borne off amid the deluge of morning light. The clouds began to form in the higher region, and were seen hovering over the mountain by the time our approach towards the island had sunk its summit from our view behind the nearer hills in the direction of Messina.

To the lover of natural imagery, the whole Strait of Faro presents a series of beautiful scenery, which cannot fail to excite his admiration, if I may judge from the appearance of the Sicilian shore in the neighbourhood of Messina. After passing the low sandy point of Pelorus, the sweep of the channel along the right-hand shore is particularly interesting, and as the vessel proceeds on towards this beautiful harbour, the scale of scenery continues to expand and increase gradually before you. The hills, which on either side of the passage tower up in each other's rear, are with the opening range of prospect, thrown back to the most pleasing distance; especially beyond the port, where the landscape is hemmed in with a hilly background, and not a point of these hills is so high as not to partake freely of the freshness and foliage of a lively vegetation.

Unlike the rounded hills of our own native land, they exhibit features which bespeak their formation to be either volcanic, or that they have been moulded under circumstances corroborative of Plutonic cosmogony; for they generally present a sharp ridge dividing each hill into two faces, and which, if not carried downwards from the summit, splits into numerous others, which, gradually becoming less sharp, are at last lost in the more flattened heights which swell around their bases. Thus formed, this species of hill appears grooved out into gullies down which the mountain torrent finds an uninterrupted channel to the vales which they irrigate; and amid the genial verdure with which every elevated ridge of the mountain is covered, the path of the rivulet may be traced far up through many a fairy slough by the light yellow tints of the pebbled bed, which its impetuosity has formed.

The above-noticed conformation of mountain-land gives also a boldness of colouring to the light and shade of its charming scenery; for while one side of each ridge reflects back in the strongest light all the life and variety of its smiling verdure or foliage, that of the other is lost in a shade as pleasing as it is remarkable to the view; since it exhibits nothing of the tameness which characterises the tints of more northern scenery, whose less luxurious vegetation has at this season to contend with a scowling and uncongenial sky.

Entering this harbour with a light favouring wind, and when every object seems to smile under the glowing charms of a Sicilian sky, the eye, carried on with the approaching vessel, has much of such scenery, as I have now noticed, brought under its inspection, and it may revel at will from strand to hill, or from the busied scene of the beach and thronged inroads of the city, to the picturesque and secluded buildings of some monastic establishment. Compared with the dark sea-beaten shores of our native isle, when a rude rocky barrier throws a screen between the waves which surround it and its scenery, or where the coast is too low to be seen from seawards, this peculiarity seems remarkable in this country, that while coasting its shores, much of its natural beauty and features is presented to view, while the boldness of its shores and happy absence almost of shoaly banks give the navigator so little cause of anxiety in approaching them. Every bay and indentation at the same time afford him a deep basin, into which he may safely retire when the storm crosses the native beauty of its liquid atmosphere.

One of the finest of these harbours is Messina. As formed by nature, it is very remarkable for the depth and capacity, as well as for the security of the anchorage. Open to the N.E., which looks towards the Faro, it is in every other direction snugly shut in from the contesting currents of the Straits; and from the violence of the sea southward, by a crescentic-like mole, which, connected with the mainland to the south of the harbour, makes a sweep into the offing, then bending into the northward, leaves a very narrow channel between its point and that part of the opposite beach. Though supposed to have been formed during some dreadful earthquake, this mole, which is beautifully lined with houses and fortifications, and affording an unruffled beach and fine harbour of about a half-a-mile in diameter, nearly embraces the greater length of the city in its bosom. Alive to the advantages thus thrown in their way, even by the frolics of nature, the islanders have, in the imposing mass of an extensive city, for ages made this harbour one of their principal maritime and commercial ports; and while the fertility of their fields rolls down on them a cornucopia of gratuitous abundance, foreign navies supply them with every commercial comfort and luxury.

The Marino, which forms the foreground of this city, was a fine range of buildings at one time, and in their regularity and extent must have set off the harbour in rather a magnificent style. Parallel to it there are several other well-built and spacious streets, which are intersected at right angles by others running towards the higher grounds in the rear, and on which the town partly stands. At present the whole length of the Marino is filled up with houses; but those, though still showy, must be a poor representative of what was formally termed the Palazzata, and which was entirely ruined by an earthquake some thirty or forty years ago. From the short stay we made at this time, I had only one stroll through the place on a Sunday afternoon.

One of my principal reasons for visiting the shore being to enjoy the exercise of a good walk, on landing with a few friends I did not stop long in the town; but after going to the north end of the Marino, directed our path up into one of the large valleys or 'fiumaros' formerly taken notice of as opening widely towards the beach. Proceeding for some little way up its spacious embouchure full of streets, houses, or straggling buildings, among which the leafless fig tree, green orange, and cypress, had a very picturesque appearance; and being tired of the throng covering the road, consisting of citizens and peasantry travelling out and in, of bullocks and flocks blocking up the way, we struck into an adjoining byepath.

After following it up through some very extensive garden-ground and vineyards, we reached a height in the rear of the city, which was the site of a monastery, the name of which I have forgotten, but I remember some of the inmates telling us it was formerly occupied during the war by our troops for the use of the sick. It commands a most beautiful and extensive prospect of the surrounding scenery and straits, which some of the Togati of the establishment very complacently pointed out to us from the different aspects of the building. Our time being rather limited, it did not admit of our losing much in looking over the paintings or humble frippery of the monastic *logement*, but after hurrying along its cool galleries and long corridors, we soon left it to ascend a little mount in the rear of the buildings, to have a complete view of the city below.

Before leaving, our attention was attracted by an object or two which displayed a good deal of what I shall term the devotional picturesque. These were two statues of saints; one in the attitude of adoration in a neat little grotto or recess; over and around him grew a variety of evergreen and broadleaved aquatic plants, which in mournful drapery threw every other part of the recess into the shade, while from the roof numerous little streams issued down over them, and diffused by the drooping foliage, fell like a continued shower on the floor of the grotto, which was formed into a handsome as well as useful fountain of sweet water for the use of the cloistered inmates. Handsome though such pieces of art were, I could only in my own mind give credit to their church for this example of the ingenious system in which their object is pursued with wonted assiduity, while in viewing such a laboured display of trickery, I was only farther convinced how far the *sense* is made the medium of religious culture; and that the effect of thus contemplating such finished materials must at least be abstraction from the things that are not of this world, if it is not productive of rooting deeper the affections below.

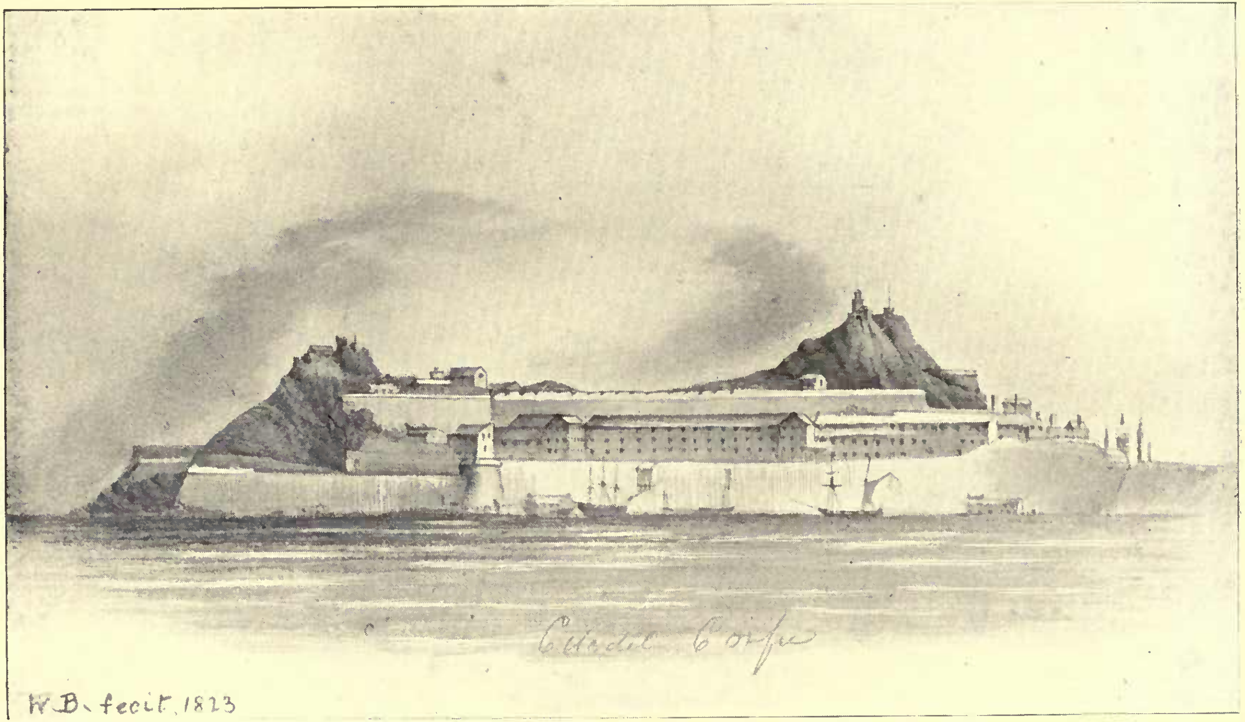
But to take a bird's-eye peep from the little eminence mentioned above, and where we found a whole company of the brethren seated round their verdant sofas, cut out on the summit, and enjoying the last rays of the setting sun, I may first observe that the whole of this marine thoroughfare, with its beautiful shores, may be seen from this as well as from any of the eminences round this city. Right opposite, and to the eastward, on the finely variegated shores of Calabria, is seen the town of Reggio, indented white among the verdure and darker shades of the coast. At about ten or twelve miles from us, and more to the northward, part of Scylla is seen thrust in under its bold shore and behind its dark rugged rock, which is a very remarkable object in that direction, while opposed to this the long yellow line of beach, with the neat tower of the Faro, forms an excellent contrast, conjoined with the more distant hills of Calabria, which are seen filling up the prospect to the northward.

Though apart from the grand world and its more interesting or clamorous exhibitions, the Messinian possesses ever in these straits a lively field to expand his observations upon, and when tired of the city hum or the ennui of his balcony, can at pleasure ascend the neighbouring heights, see the flags of numerous nations daily passing in the breeze, and at this time peacefully decorating those waves that so often, from the days of Alcibiades down to the no less glorious times of Nelson, have curled around many a naval armament, or been stained with the blood of the various brave.

CHAPTER XI

Corfu Island—Meteorology.

Corfu, Ionian Islands, 23*rd February* 1823.—The series of different changes which the atmosphere in a nearly undisturbed and settled state undergoes in the course of a day in this climate is a subject of very curious and pleasing study; since the senses are as much gratified with the beauty of such phenomena as the mind is with the admirable order and regularity with which they are developed. It is only at certain seasons of the year when such changes are very remarkable; as the different elements whose agency renders them ostensible, are, during the exalted temperature of the summer solstice, kept dissolved in an unembodied state, or are deficient from the diminished saturation of the atmosphere with moisture. During the winter solstice again in high latitudes, the hygrometrical capacity in the air is never sufficient to elevate or elicit the necessary materials from the surface. Between these extremes, however, in cold or even temperate climates, while the sun's declination is either rising or falling, such phenomena often



CITADEL OF CORFU.

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become apparent; and like the strong contrasts of the light and shade of the morning and evening, so are placed between the summer and winter the rich tints of the vernal and autumnal skies. Often have I feasted on the glories of the morning or setting sun at these seasons of the year; and such were the impressions I received, that, from association, I called to mind the concomitant scenes and employments of my boyhood at similar times of the year.

Of all the displays of atmospheric beauty, however, which have ever called for my admiration, I have never witnessed any that could impress with its grandeur and beauty equal to what I have often had an opportunity of seeing lately on the coasts of Italy and Greece. Yesterday's sunset was one of those which particularly attracted my notice. During the day not a breath of wind had been astir in the heavens, but such was the exhalation of the morning, that the sun was very early obscured; and from the denseness of the atmosphere in consequence, the whole hemisphere was overspread with dense vapours, which, too high to constitute a fog, were too low to assume the embodied forms of regular clouds. They intervened like a thick canopy stretched over the earth, through which the sun's progress could not be traced until he had far distanced the snowy mountains of Epirus, and was fast sinking in the Ionian wave. This canopy of vapour, however, began gradually to rise towards sunset; and in ascending farther into the atmosphere, soon resolved itself into numerous broken patches, each of which becoming gradually more defined, in a short time assumed the form of regular clouds. Though between these the azure sky was seen in all its most delicate shades, from the deep cerulean of the zenith to the mellow and golden lustre with which the setting sun had irradiated the horizon.

Rich as this background was, and peculiar to these climes, it was caused by these newly formed clouds, embellished beyond the powers of pencil or pen to describe, or imitate; for the same objects which by day had obscured the sun's radiance, now richly reflected a galaxy of admirable colours; and, drinking up the latest rays of the setting sun, they poured them down on the earth, full of chasteness and beauty, even when their glorious source was no longer to be seen. Over our heads the lower verge of the respective clouds, fast losing the light, soon yielded up the deep purple rays to those farther from the zenith, and assumed in their turn a tinge more allied to the leaden hue of the nocturnal sky.

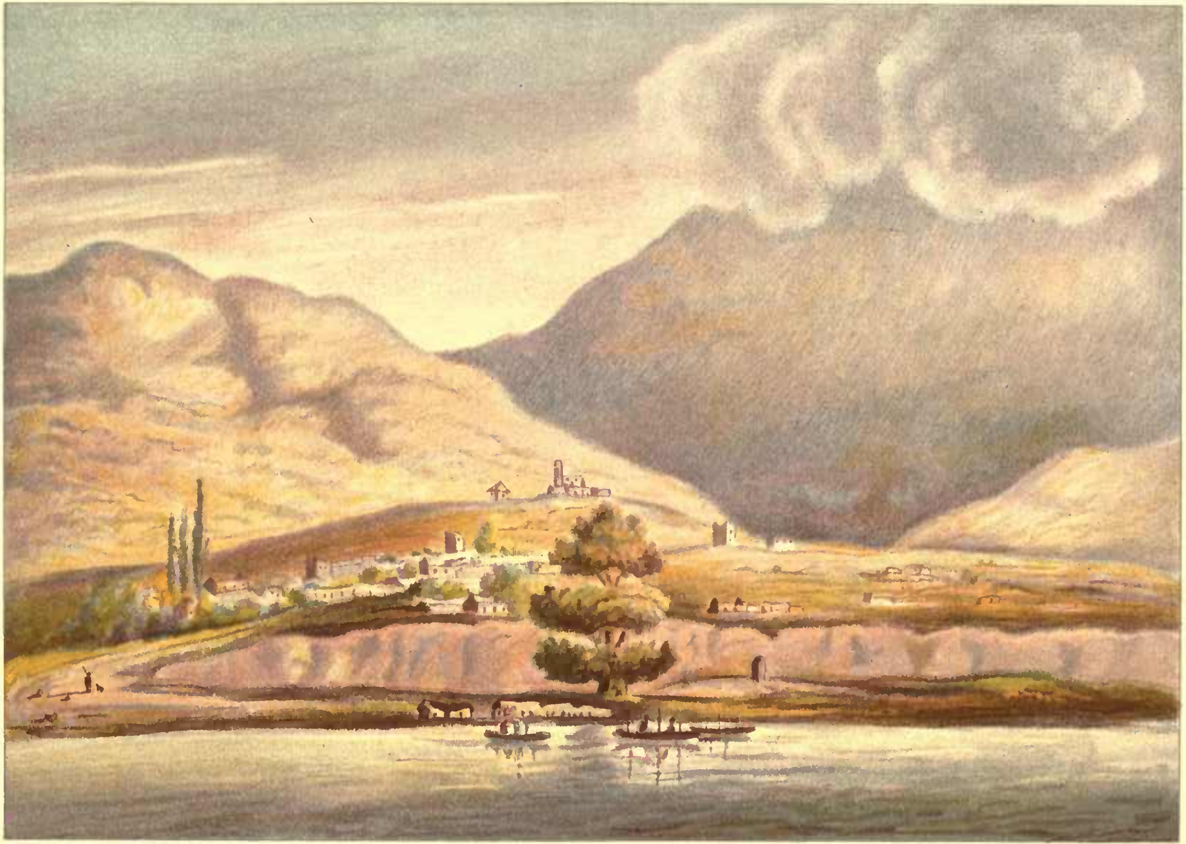
Further downwards in the west the lines of clouds, perspectively diminishing, exhibited a variety of shades from that now mentioned, through the lively vermilion and rich orange tint, to that of the lowest line of clouds which, almost kissing the olive-feathered outline of land in that direction, shone like bright burnished gold, and for some time partook of the dazzling lustre of Apollo himself. Lively and luminous as the colours were, so strong was the contrast which each cloud afforded to the other, that only the lowest margin could directly be illumined by the setting sun, and the upper part of each, successively ranged behind the other, was thrown into the shade, which, nevertheless, seemed to glow with the splendour that was around them.

To eke out the beauty and grandeur of such a natural assemblage, the surrounding scenery was well worthy of such an hour; and its outline seemed as much moulded for the adornment of the evening, as by day it presented an interesting and extensive panorama. Low towards the west, the darkened profile of the island was in admirable contrast to the heavens in that direction; while in the east the distant mountains of Albania were seen thrusting up their snowy summits, from among the young shades of night, and protruding their gigantic heights, through the latest rays of the evening.

CHAPTER XII

Gulf of Lepanto—Vostizza—Ruin of Greek Warfare.

VOSTIZZA, GULF OF LEPANTO, AT SEA, *March* 1823. —It was a fine evening in the month of March when with a fair breeze we approached the anchorage off Vostizza; and by the time the ship came to anchor, the tints thrown over every object around us were as beautiful as they were peculiarly those of a Grecian sky. The last rays of the setting sun then illumined the place; and though in its rear many a fine valley was lost in the deep shade of the mountain, still the ruins of Vostizza and its environs reflected back that mellow light by which its open and finely elevated situation was thrown beautifully forward in the picture. Whether through curiosity or alarm, the Greeks were seen grouped on the heights over the beach in all the vigilance of their anxious and war-bestirred souls; and as we were only about half-a-mile distant from them, the varied colour of their costume, the glittering of their arms, and the mass of ruins behind them, presented altogether a scene to us, as novel as it was



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VOSTIZZA IN MARCH 1827

interesting from the present circumstances of the country.

This town, once the famous Egium of Achaia, and laid waste about two years ago by the Turks, is situated about twenty miles above the Straits of Lepanto. It is a thousand pities to see a place possessed of so many natural advantages in the state of ruin to which it has been reduced; for its situation is remarkable for the pleasant elevation at which it stands above the beach; as well as for the extensive range of prospect it commands along both shores of the gulf. At the bottom of a shallow bay, it occupies the extremity of a flat gallery or ridge of land which, presenting a bold though verdant face to the beach, runs towards the mountain behind it.

Its environs are lengthened out to the eastward into an immense tract of level land, partly covered with olive groves* and vineyards, and fertile apparently throughout, if we may judge from its numerous though neglected enclosures. To the westward of the town, the land which is high, appears at present in a perfectly wild state; though it still bears some traces of former culture, and shows where the labours of more peaceful times have been expended. Carrying the eye over the town the dark shades of the high and distant background afforded, at such an hour, a grand relief to the shining ruins in advance, while towards the higher part of the lofty outline, the dark shoulder of the pine-clad mountain is lost in the snows of the more elevated summit of Lampadie.

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* This was probably the wood where the states assembled round the Temple of Jupiter.

On landing one is pleased with the long, clear, sandy beach, sweeping round on either side, the neat verdure creeping over it, and the flocks wandering up and down from the water-springs, which, at every little distance, are found in abundance. On ascending the hill, however, which starts at about ten paces from the water's edge, a most melancholy and miserable scene meets the eyes of the stranger. A town which but a short time ago had contained about four thousand inhabitants, is now seen a deformed and roofless heap of ruins. Its numerous streets, public places, and gardens, are choked up with nettles and rank, stinking herbs, among which the lizard and other reptiles find a lurking place. The wild hawk of the mountain is also seen perched on the neglected orange or olive tree, or on the point of some ruin, quietly watching his prey, or else with his desert companions scouring, unmolested, the whole bounds of the place.

Far hence is now banished the domestic scene, nor can the pleasures of the peaceful circle expand the heart with their animating influence ; for if not entombed among the ruins, on the cold hill, or the retreat of the mountain, each heart is only chilled into the reaction, or ardour of vengeance, and the deep vows of war. Aware how precarious the possession of the soil is, they have ceased to repair the walls which once sheltered them, which are now mostly standing ruined and roofless as when first overturned by the turbaned sons of Islam in 1822.*

The extent of the town has been very considerable, but, compared with those in England, it could not contain anything equal to their population; for though the streets, which are narrow and irregular, are numerous, and of great length, yet, from the smallness of the houses, being no higher than two storeys, and their few apartments, they could only have accommodated their inhabitants in a very unwholesome and crowded manner.

Towards the exterior of the town, and even in some parts of its centre, every house had a garden in its rear, well-stocked, with the orange, the almond, and a variety of other fruit trees, which, now neglected and unpruned, were still rearing up their blossomed branches amidst the wilderness around. With the exception of some of the churches, and of a few respectable ruined houses, the town has been mostly built of mud or clay, baked up with straw, and allowed to harden in the sun. Not having seen any rocks in the neighbourhood, but a bank of hardened unmanageable debris or breccia, I imagine they had been obliged to use such inferior materials.

Taking a walk over the place, I saw here and there a stone building, and also some of the streets paved with round stones from the brook. Some of the churches, of which there had been several, had been good buildings from the fragments of marble pillars and cornices seen strewed round the walls. Looking into one of these ruins, many fragments of church ornaments and furniture, such as lamps, candlesticks, and chrystal candelabra, were observed mixed up with the debris and blackened ashes of the building, and lay heaped up round the altar, occupying with their deformity what once attracted with its beauty and solemn garniture the devotional gaze of an assembled people.

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* Independence of Greece proclaimed, 27th January 1822.

While viewing this picture of desolation, one or two armed Greeks looked in, took a sullen or rather grave look round the interior, shook their heads, and then, as if apparently seizing with firmer grasp their long bright firearms, turned and mutely walked away. There was something in their countenances, as well as in those of the other armed Moreotes I have seen there, which, while far from being pleasant, very piquantly developed the species of excitement which their circumstances must have generated. Though their mien is rather stately and open, all serenity of feature is lost in the gloom of settled turbulence which is particularly discernible when a momentary complacency has subsided after being first accosted by a stranger.

Though the Greeks are now indisputed masters of the place and surrounding country, very few of their families have as yet descended from the mountains to take advantage of the seed time and season. Considerable parties have, however, assembled, and in the garden and rich vale near the town, we saw them busy at work with the mattock and spade. Every man was prepared for another more important employment, and round him were girded his richly studded pistols, his cartouch box and sword, while set up against the vine-stakes their muskets were here and there glittering in the sun. Cheerless work, I thought, and happy is that husbandman who has never dreamed of such circumstances, but in peace tills his field and reaps the fruits of his labour, undisturbed by the voice or the guise of war.*

Among the many groups of those more strictly under arms, and who were stretched out on the heights round the place, there was a manner about them which seemingly bespoke total contempt for anything like social and domestic comfort, but which, at the same time, pointed out their sensibility to the privations they endured. In the elevated eyebrow and downcast look of the more aged, care seemed to preside in all the ominous quiet of despair; and their features, though unbent, seemed oppressed with the serious weight of their destiny. Among the youths, some of whom were perfect boys, there was some degree of that vivacity which is peculiar to their age, and which, at the sight of any novelty, could make them for a time forget their arms and the toils of the field. In the eyes of both, however, there was that look of intelligence which so much corresponded with the sensibility for which their ancestors were remarkable, and it formed a general trait in all their countenances.

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* Turks driven out of Morea, June 1821.

As to the war of Greek Independence, it is still carried on with as much inveteracy as ever against the Turks, and without any prospect of a final termination. As an example of the barbarities committed between the parties, I will now state what came under my eyes while staying at Vostizza. Two Turks, who were supposed to have been attempting to cross the country from Acrata to the castle of Agia, had been so famished with hunger and cold, that they placed themselves in the hands of some country people, by applying for a little nourishment from them. Chilled was each heart, however, by the fell breath of war, and every feeling was insensible to the piteous claims of suffering humanity even when presented by the voluntary captive. Little did these unfortunate sons of the turbaned host think that every wound of the infidel sword was so cancerous and deep. Too long had the objects of their mistaken hopes borne the sword of resistance, and too long had they laboured under a frenzied feeling of past injuries. Could a race the most obscure in civilised Europe, and sunk in all the ferocity of such precarious circumstances, take a look at the fire-scorched ruins of their homes, at their fields and vineyards given up to waste and neglectedness. Could they call to mind the butchery of their patriarch,* nay, could they look round at the fear-convulsed features of their wives and little ones, and spare the lives of these miserable supplicants. No, this magnanimous act might have been expected from the Greeks of past ages, and could only have characterised nations planted more on the foreground of civilisation. Death was their portion, and that too of the most cruel kind from all appearances. They had first been shot if not more barbarously butchered, for next day they were both seen not far from the beach, lying mutilated in a most disgusting manner ; and to add to this hideous sight some dogs were at the time busily knawing out their entrails.

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* Greek patriarch murdered at Constantinople, 23rd April 1821.

CHAPTER XIII

Arrival Tunis—Ruins Carthage.

N. AFRICA, OFF TUNIS, 10*th June* 1823.—-The land around the site of ancient Carthage and the Bay of Tunis has rather a dreary appearance from seawards and especially as seen during the prevalence of a Sirocco; for, though from beyond Cape Bon, and even in the rear of Tunis, there are some mountains, yet as these are of no great height they afford little relief to the eye in the extensive sweep which it has from the roadstead of a low smooth coast and distant land.

Anchored at about seventeen miles from the city, more than two-thirds of the horizon around was filled up with the land; while in the offing the little Island of Timbra is seen far to the eastward. To the northward this great extent of shore, here and there varying in its distance, begins with the bluff promontory of Carthage that bounds the bay on this side. Near to its extremity, which is covered with the white clump of a modern village, the land swells up to perhaps about 200 feet, but towards the southward it slopes gradually away until it is lost in the low smooth level of the beach round the bottom of the bay, and the wide extent of rich plain stretching out many miles behind it. On the site of the bay now mentioned, the prospect is entirely bounded by the outline of this land, which, though fertile and productive of rich crops, now newly reaped and in stubble, has a very naked appearance, for there is not a tree near the beach to set off the shapeless heaps of ruins seen scattered over the place, and which still exist as grand memorials of the past.

Carrying the eye farther to the west, at about five miles off, the principal objects that attract attention are the walls of the fort and the naval yard and shipping at the port of the Goletta, where the passage is which leads into the great lake before Tunis. In the rear of these objects, a small slip of the lake's blue surface may be seen, and the low foreground of Goletta is overlooked by the land on the farther side of the lake, where the mass of the town is discernible with its white showy domes and pillared mosques, the distance of which is discernible from the less distinct and more softened outline.

A little to the left of the town there are two small hills, and on either side the country rises a little, though, generally speaking, it is rather low round the place. To the southward the hills are of considerable height, of an abrupt form, and running in the direction of Cape Bon, which is hid from the view by the nearer land bounding the bay to the eastward.

Having been seldom on shore, I have had but few opportunities for particular observations. Of the city, however, to which I one day made an excursion, it may, in the first place, be remarked, that it possesses all the advantages which we should imagine its inhabitants, from their general character, know how to appreciate; for its situation is not only remote from the path of the voyager, but in its advance has a barrier well mounted with cannon for their defence in the port of the Goletta. This port is formed by the junction of two necks of low land stretching on each side of the bay, and which, broad at first, becomes very narrow, forming at once the inferior boundary of the bay, and the division between it and the lake behind. The depth of water is considerable, and large vessels can even enter the channel of the Goletta. In the lake it is the reverse, there not being more than two or three feet of water all over it; so that merchantmen have to discharge their cargoes into smaller vessels at this place. In the dockyard, or naval arsenal, which looks neglected and ruinous, there are a number of vessels, small, and of different descriptions, and three frigates with some gunboats. The walls are mounted with a great many cannon, and could, when manned, make a strong resistance to an enemy. At present there are, I understood from one of the dragomen, not more than 200 men stationed in it. Here is one of those immense guns used for throwing stones; it was, I dare to say, above two feet and a half in diameter in the bore, and the stones, some of which were lying near to it, were of granite, well cut, and looked an immense size for a missile.

On approaching the walls of Tunis, what particularly struck me was the total absence of all that bustle and busy crowding that marks the outlets of all our great towns at home; on the contrary, the soil (which appears loamy, clean, and fertile to a degree) is cropped to the very gates. In some parts they were quietly cutting down the barley, or bearded corn, which was quite ripe; in others, flocks of camels were feeding on the stubble, or the poor Moors, or wandering Arabs were seen busy gleaning after the reapers. Like most places in this country, fruit appeared plentiful, which, together with the finest vegetables, were exposed on stalls round the gates; but being late in the day, few people were seen in the market.*

The town, from the whiteness of its buildings, is very showy at a distance, though, with the exception of a few mosques, it falls far short of Christian towns with respect to public buildings, even in its external appearance. The streets are very narrow and in many places extremely filthy, though the bazaar streets are tolerably clean, and very cool from the arched roofing, principally of wood, thrown over them, and which being open at every little space, the fig tree or vine is seen filling the apertures with their foliage, or thrusting down their loaded branches over your head. In the arrangement of their shops there appears to be some good regularity, for only one kind of merchandise is to be found in one street, and the buyer has the choice of a variety of commodities. On walking through some of the streets, I could not but remark the similitude between the houses there and those which they used to build in ancient times, and now to be seen among the excavations of Pompeii. The houses have few windows that look towards the street, and open more into the central court found in most of them. The shops are small, with large open doors and without any windows. In some streets the causeway is sunk below the houses, and there being no path close to their doors, the inmates are all seen seated before them on mats or carpets at their several occupations, or else smoking their pipes.

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* Tunis taken by the Turks, 1571.

The inhabitants, who are composed of Turks, Arabs, and Moors, Jews, and Greeks, are some of them stout and well-made, and particularly the middle-aged among the former. There are, however, an immense proportion of poor people who have a wretched appearance. Few women, as is the custom, were seen, and those we did see had the greater part of their faces hid with a veil drawn tight over them.

Among other places, I and my companions had a gaze at what was the new palace of the Bey, which is still unfinished.* It consists of four sides with a grand central colonnaded court. The apartments are numerous, and though not on a great scale, are fitted up quite in the eastern style. The ceilings, which are all arched or bell-shaped, glittered with gilt work, while the walls were inlaid with coloured marble or painted tiles, and the floors with mosaic. After a dinner served up in the French style at one of the hotels, we left the place early in the afternoon and again embarked.

The ship having stopped for some days in the bay, I made one of a party to the ruins of Carthage; but from rather an uncomfortable circumstance which occurred, I had but a very cursory survey of them, though it was sufficient to convince me of the extent of this once eminent city.† The ruins now to be seen of the ancient city show that its circumference must have been on an extensive scale, and perfectly corroborate what history informs us, that when it was destroyed by the younger Scipio 147 years before the Christian era, its circumference was twenty-three miles. The ruins are not only scattered along the beach inwards from Cape Carthage, but beyond the latter place they are to be traced over the hill right down into the plains, where the greatest body of them are to be seen. There, part of the walls are still visible about two feet above the surface, and extending round the ruins a considerable way on the northward. Traces of similar walls are also to be seen along the beach, and they appear to have been double. The stones used for building them do not appear to have been large, though the lumps of dilapidated buildings are of a gigantic appearance; and their thickness bespeak the most massive construction; the mortar, which is excellent, and now hard as the stones it yet keeps together, bears a great proportion to the other materials.

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* First Bey of Tunis appointed, 1574.

† Taken and destroyed by Saracens, 698.

Immense masses of stonework are now consequently seen retaining the position they seem originally to have taken on being thrown from their respective buildings. Of such great variety and number are they quite near to the northern beach, and partly occupying a gentle declivity, that they have a very striking appearance as remains of the antique; while from their position, extent, and fantastic form, they at once impress the stranger with all the deformity of a ruined city, as well as with an idea of the grand scale of its architecture and former magnificence. Of the ruins which I had an opportunity of seeing, the greater part appeared formerly to have been the groundwork or vaulted cellars of the houses, which must have been on a great scale, and particularly where the main body of the ruins lay. Besides at those parts where the vaults and rugged arch work are exposed, some ruins are to be traced, all round the place under the verdure of the surface, by the long regular mounds running parallel to each other. Some of the vaults were filled with water, and appear, as well as many of those in the city, to have formerly been used as tanks. Of the cool though wretched cover these vaults are still capable of affording from the intemperance of an African sky, the Arab seems to have taken every advantage; for numbers seemed there to have taken up their abode along with their women and children, their dogs, camels, and beasts of burden; all of which, though enlivening the scene, detracted not from its wildness and melancholy; if in reflection they heightened not the contrast between the past and the present.

Some of these remains of buildings are situated not far from the beach near Cape Carthage, but it is difficult to say whether they were in *statu quo* as to situation, or whether from time they had become covered with the soil. In the middle of a corn-field I descended into one of them by what seemingly had been a narrow staircase, though now without anything like steps, but having walls smoothed over with ancient stucco, and which still retained some traces of former colouring. Through a very narrow door this led into a square room, open only to the light from some breaches in the archwork at top, but communicating by narrow doors with several other little apartments, all roofed over in the same way. On the walls, which are still coated with stucco, are names of visitors, written in pencil, from all quarters of the civilised world, and I inscribed mine amongst the rest.

The materials with which the archwork of this is formed, as well as of all the other ruins I saw, appeared rather novel to me, though it seems to have been common in this country, and most likely was not adopted through want of skill in masonry, but from a want of stone proper for that purpose. I have since remarked the same among the more modern ruins of Vostizza in the Morea. The novelty alluded to is that of forming the arch of a roof with bottles of coarse red baked earth, without bottoms, with short necks, and somewhat less than a foot long, which, being thrust into each other and connected by the finest mortar, are raised into arches, running parallel to each other, on which the other parts of the building are erected; while the inner surface is coated over with stucco or plaster. Among the soil throughout the whole vicinity of the place, the debris of these bottles or other baked earth seems to form a great constituent; and for miles you can scarcely cast your eyes round you where they will not fall on some fragment of mosaic, verde antique, or polished marble. Among the principal masses there are numerous fragments of fine pillars which are daily carried off by the traveller.

Owing both to circumstances and shortness of time, I, with my companions, did not penetrate far among the ruins, but returned to the boat again, all of us being inclined to put little confidence in the guide that attended us. The fellow was one of those Arabs whom the Bey keeps in his pay, and had one of the most distrustful-looking countenances we had ever seen. On first landing he attached himself to our company as cicerone. Not knowing what to make of him at first, we called at the little Turkish fort, where we received every civility, and though they took little notice of him, they did not seem to warn us of any impropriety in following him.

We consequently followed him towards the ruins, and, at first, he appeared very communicative, but soon afterwards, on passing some Arab families, who had here and there pitched their tents among the fields of reaped corn, and descending into the verge of the plains among the ruins where these tribes appeared more numerous, this civility gradually changed into an officious impertinence almost amounting to compulsion, and when we did not comply with his wishes to go farther, he appeared from his noisy talk to be highly displeased, and wishful to attract the attention of the Arabs who were standing by. Whether or not his intentions were to rob us, I cannot say, but finding ourselves surrounded with Bedouins, out of sight of the boat and unarmed, besides being few in number and otherwise defective —one of my companions being sick and the other without an arm—to prevent an accident we returned to the beach, very much vexed that we had gone on shore unarmed.

The first part of the walk was very pleasant, and it being the cool of the evening, the stretch over the hill was not very fatiguing. The plains could not be seen at a more favourable moment, and from the great quantity of trees covering them, and long tracts of yellow crops breaking in at different distances, they certainly looked beautiful. In point of their fertility and intrinsic richness, they are admirable to a degree ; and it is not to be wondered that such a soil raised a rival so formidable to Rome, and which from its opulence should so long have disputed with her the sovereignty of the world. The scion, as gigantic in its growth as is the land it belonged to, did not long stand the storm which her splendour had drawn down upon her, but was hurled into ruins by the fires of her antagonist, after a flourishing existence of some five hundred years. At the present day, neither of these states are represented but by people who can only look back on them with distant admiration or pride, without the least grain of emulating their virtue or independence. In the present state of obscurity in which the political existence of modern Carthage is cast, it will be long before a European senate rings with debates invidious of its departed prosperity, or the breast of a modern Cato pant for the conflagration of the ruined city.

CHAPTER XIV

Autumn in Ionian Islands.

IONIAN ISLANDS, AT SEA, *September* 1823.—Of all the seasons, that of the latter end of Autumn is probably the most pleasant to the visitor among the Ionian Islands. Very early in the summer their herbage begins to wither, and before the beginning of September the mountains and plains have assumed the less lively though mellow tints of the declining season. At this season, however, the weather gets more temperate, and these sun-cherished isles are seen in all the luxuriant display of their crops and copious fruitage. Notwithstanding the heat which towards mid-day becomes yet very powerful, I have often enjoyed a stroll into the interior of the islands among the beauties of their scenery, which in some places is well worth seeing, and where one is absolutely astonished with the rich productiveness of the soil. Whenever a particle of it is found, whether on rock or plain, the eye is filled with the luxuriance that hides it from view; and with the rich fruits which nature has thrown over it, with but little assistance from the hands of the husbandman.

It is impossible to judge of the fertility of some of these isles without actually climbing the sunny slope or rocky side of the hill, for the vines are generally shrubby and low, as well as the currant, cotton, and many other plants. Compared with the earlier season of the year, the eye perhaps feels on most of them some want of that freshness and life which in Spring marks the face of nature; it is now filled, however, with her riches and ripened beauty, while the husbandman is seen in all his most felicitous moments, amid the flowing crops of his vineyard and the enjoyment of his labours. Between the olive, the fig, and pomegranate trees, the landscape is far from being bereft of its verdure, and among the former of these particularly, a good earnest is sustained of the continued vegetation and happy amenity of the climate.

Throughout the whole year the beauty and life of the landscape are preserved by the olive tree, and when every leaf has withered, and the varied foliage is seen fading in the sun, this revered emblem of antiquity again renews its age, and in the verdure of its young fruit looks fresher and more gay. It abounds in most of the islands, but particularly in Corfu, which, with the exception of its high hills, may be said to be covered with it as the natural wood of the place. Nothing can be prettier than the lively appearance it gives to the whole eastern side, where from the great diversity of hill and dale wooded over with it, a combination of imagery is to be seen, hardly to be equalled in any other of the islands. For miles you can walk under its shade, and be pleased with the variety of its sylvan scene, opening frequently around you through the different breaks of the wood. In one spot you see this green wooded tract, still as revered for its productiveness as when under the auspices of Polytheism, broken in upon by the rudely simple bounds of some vineyard, thick copse of pomegranate, or fig tree, all bending under their luscious fruitage.

In another direction the eye rests on a fair clump of some neat little village, with its belfry or spire; while all around, a variety of white houses, or neat country villas are peeping out from their screens of fruit or olive trees, as emblematic of domestic quiet and felicity, as formerly were reckoned the evergreens that surround them.

To the lover of the pastoral, some of such roads present every object that is connected with rural life; numerous flocks of goats and sheep, with the picturesquely dressed shepherd, keep crossing the pathway from one pasture to another; the dog, tenacious of his charge, barks defiance to the stranger; while in the distance the different sounds of tinkling bells point out the direction in which other herds are no less happily feeding; and among the olives one will often stumble on different parties busily employed at the various labours of the field or farm. There some are milking the goats, and there others pressing out the curd under the shade of the trees, or suspending it from the branches to harden in the air ; and such is the rude simplicity displayed in this latter occupation, that viewing it in alliance with other objects around you, one can hardly imagine oneself a spectator of a pastoral scene in 1823.

Compared with some of the islands in the western Atlantic, the Ionian do not strike the eye of the approaching voyager with such a lively appearance, nor are their vegetable tints so strong. They, however, excel them in the delicacy and variety of their fruits, whilst the varied colouring of the surface, if not so glaring, partakes richly of that softness, which characterises their native sky, and casts a pleasing beauty over the Grecian landscape.

CHAPTER XV

Bay Salerno—Temples of Pæstum.

Bay of Salerno, Italy, 12*th October* 1823.—This afternoon the contingencies of my situation have again administered to my gratification, and afforded me a very beautiful prospect of the famed Temples of Pæstum. Isolated as they are on an extensive down which flanks the Bay of Salerno to the southward, they make as remains of the antique, a truly magnificent as well as showy appearance to seaward; and as they are, so, doubtlessly, they must have been a very remarkable beacon to vessels running up this beautiful gulf. Most of the day the ship had been running close along the coast, and we had much to admire in the occasional glimpses we obtained of the changing scenery, which principally consisted of fine wooded hills and ravines studded over with romantic-looking villas, towns, monasteries, and other showy buildings, which from the bold barrier on the beach to the distant summit of the towering Apennine in the rear, proudly crowned every elevated and rocky feature on the landscape.

Gradually nearing the shore as the day mellowed in the west, both the interest and beauty of the coast heightened before us; and running down the bay, as one headland kept shutting in another behind us, so a number of picturesque points were successively opening to view, each presenting its variety of objects; or, an imagery excelling what the eye had just ceased to contemplate. At length the Three Temples came under review and absorbed the attention of every one. It was a happy moment, for soon the sun sank in the Tyrrhenian wave, and the whole scene was enveloped in the shades of his retirement.*

Already had Amalfi with Salerno and their beautiful vicinity been thrown into the shade by the fine wooded hills that surround them, while the whole opposite side of the bay with the Plains of Pæstum were exposed to the full golden light of the evening sun. So near were we to the beach, that although the antiquary could not possibly describe the order of the pillars, or the nature of the material, yet the oblong form of each temple was distinct, and the long rows of stately pillars could almost be counted; all of which with their portals and cornices were brightly illumined by the rich splendour of an Italian sunset, shone like golden structures in the distance, and were beautifully contrasted with the green shade that was gradually thickening among the dwarfish foliage around them. They stand a very little way from the shore, and at such a tasteful distance from the Apennine heights shooting up behind them, that no

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* Dated B.C. 350, under Lucania.

TEMPLE OF PÆSTUM.

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natural object detracts from their magnificence which must continue to fill the distant eye from a widely extensive range of hilly homes and romantic retirements.

Throughout the changes which the country has suffered over and over, these noble ruins yet stand peerless on the plain, and every modern edifice around is lost in the lustre of their remaining symmetry and grandeur. Though dedicated, as they no doubt were, to the rude rites of mythology, to the more enlightened world they still proclaim the earlier perfectibility of human art, if not the taste that accompanied its development, and in bewailing the motives that gave momentum to human ingenuity, one cannot but admire the beauty of the fabrics, which excel and even surpass for combination of grandeur and symmetry with simplicity, strength, and solidity the most celebrated structures of antiquity.

CHAPTER XVI

Bay of Naples—Vesuvius, Ascent of; Panorama from.

Bay of Naples, 12*th November* 1823. — Induced by as fine a morning as ever dawned on the Bay of Naples in the month of November to fulfil my projected visit to the top of Vesuvius, I made one of a small party that took advantage of the day and started from Naples about ten o'clock in the forenoon. The wind, being rather high and from off the Apennine ridge, was extremely cold, and by the time of our arrival at Portici, I felt considerably chilled on alighting from the carriage.

Soon provided, however, with asses, a cicerone and guide, all of which the stranger finds little difficulty in procuring about that vicinity, we started from Resina a little past eleven; and though the temperature kept falling as we ascended, we for some time felt warmer from the exercise of spurring on the animals, that were very unwillingly dragged forth from their stalls. The road up the mountain (or rather the path) is one of the roughest that can possibly be imagined; from within a short distance of Resina, it is not only narrow, but though walled on each side for a considerable way, it is traversed or cut up in every direction with ruts and gullies. Black ridges of cropping lava and scoria, which, with the numerous pieces of pumice stone or primitive strata formerly thrown out from the crater, all render the track of a description on which a footing could only be entrusted to the animals generally employed; for it is indeed all of a piece with the wild vomitory to which it leads.

Before arriving at the Capuchin Hermitage, which is four miles and a half up the mountain, the unpleasantness of the road was often fully compensated for in the admirable views which its different windings occasionally afforded us. All the face of the mountain so far is one continued vineyard or garden ground; and though it was too late for us to see the richness of its fruitage, still it easily could be fancied what a rich contrast was exhibited; since the wildness of the path is almost throughout closely hemmed in with fruit trees and vines, which in many parts are spread over your head, as if hiding the deformity of the material beneath.

As we proceeded, sometimes a short glimpse was got of the bay beneath us, or the various objects that adorn it; at other times from some inequality in the ascent, a peep of the cone was offered through the foliage of the vines and was soon towering far above us in all its hoary magnificence. It was a little way below the Hermitage however, whence, in my opinion, the most favourable view could be had, both of the grandeur of size and beauty of the situation of the city of Naples.

Higher up, or from the cone, the *coup d'œil* around you partakes too much of a scale that excites admiration, while the above-mentioned part of the panorama becomes less showy in the distance, and sinks into one of the many interesting points on which the eye can rest round this beautiful coast. At the spot to which I allude, the scope of vision is more confined and looks down a vista of rich fruit trees and vines. Naples is seen as the principal object in the distance, richly flanking the north side of the bay with its beautiful sweep of showy buildings and streets, which, spreading wide up the Capo di Monte, become intermingled with the gardens, and the view is at length lost in the rich foliage and verdure of the Campo Marte and *Happy* Campagna. To this scene, which I shall not here more particularly describe, I could not help turning more than once with fresh admiration.

Making the best use of our time, we arrived at the Hermitage just as its bell was sounding mid-day. It being necessary to give the asses some rest here, we alighted for that purpose, as well as to pay the old hermit the accustomed visit. He was at the door and welcomed us, clad in all the humble weeds of the Capuchin order. He appeared a middle-aged, contented-looking man, had been two years of the sixteen they generally engage for, and told us he received two carlins per day from the king while he stopped. The house allowed him is very commodious, and, judging from the number of visitors seen noted in his book, he very seldom passes much of his time in the seclusion of the true hermit. With our consent he soon got a lunch prepared for us, which, consisting of omelets, ham, bread, fruit and wine, we partook of with considerable *gout;* after which, lighting a cigar and receiving the old hermit's benediction, we again mounted to proceed for the cone, the base of which is about a mile and a half farther on.

The first half of this distance is one of the best parts of the whole road; perfectly smooth, it winds up a gentle ascent towards the fields of dark lava, on the apex of a ridge beautifully wooded on each side with oak trees and chestnut. A little onwards the road bends towards the left, and the foot of Mount Somma, where is presented one of the grandest wooded ravines I have ever seen, and which is formed by the precipitous declivity of Mount Somma, and that of the ridge along which we had just been travelling. It is seen in all its sylvan munificence dipping far down below one's feet, and though late in the season, yet presented, in the various shades of the fading foliage, a pleasing extent of imagery, which could scarcely be expected in the wild environs of this terrific volcano.

The features of the scenery were soon changed, for, turning from this beautiful ridge, the path leading to the base of the cone lay through wild wastes of black lava and ashes, among which it was impossible to discern the footsteps of any former visitor, or the semblance of a beaten track. So accustomed were our animals to the journey, however, that the cicerone desired us to trust to their guidance alone, and it was really astonishing with what sagacity they picked out the most practicable paths through the lava, and the sure footing they made, notwithstanding the inequalities they had to encounter.

The universal tinge of this part of the mountain was dark ; wave behind wave could be traced of black lava, all consolidated in the original form it had assumed, in rolling down the shoulder of the mountain and each presenting its black elevated face before you, in all the lofty swell of the wide-spreading mass. The beds of lava, crusted over with the hardened scoria and cinders, in no part presents a smooth or level surface, but in their outline have such a rough and rugged appearance, as if artificially thrown up and not the natural scum of the volcanic flux that now lays solid underneath.

In tracing the overflowings of the crater to their respective points of refrigeration, immense currents were seen elongating themselves far down the mountain, and particularly those of the last eruption in February 1822, which, exhibiting long tracts of dark devastation, become indented among the vineyards for some way below the Hermitage.

Arrived at length near the cone, we dismounted

MOUNT VESUVIUS.

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not far from its base, and leaving the asses with a lad under the smoking face of a lava precipice, we proceeded on to the ascent over a very rough path partly coated with ice, and enveloped at times in clouds of loose ashes, which the wind raised round this part of the mountain. After warming our hands over a chasm, whence issued some highly heated fumes, and each of us taking a staff to support himself up the yielding surface, we began to scale the precipitous cone, which forms about one-third of the whole mountain's elevation. Feeling much cramped from the excessive cold, the thermometer being now 36°, I had some difficulty in surmounting the first part of the ascent.

By degrees, however, I at length reached the summit, and though not much fatigued in consequence, soon found I was in a climate of quite a different nature to what we had left behind us. The thermometer was now down to the freezing point, and so high was the wind at times, that some precaution was found necessary to keep our footing, or to avoid the clouds of light sand and ashes that occasionally beset us. The first part of the ascent was pretty free from the number of large stones and masses of rough scoria that have rolled from the elevated parts; further up it is more difficult, and near the summit it is mostly of loose sand, pumice stones, and ashes, through which the smoke issues at every little distance. In some places close to the crater's mouth, heated fumes, apparently consisting of sulphur and water in a state of vaporisation, were seen issuing from under a surface crusted thickly over with ice; in other places the dark humid colour of the declivity marked where decomposition was going on, or where the superficial material was of a very exalted temperature.

Not as formerly, the curious traveller now arrives quite abruptly on the very verge of the crater, and the *coup d'œil*, which there meets the eye of the beholder, is wild and volcanic beyond conception. An immense rugged cavity of some thousand feet in circumference is seen yawning beneath, and all round its walls, which the late eruption has left of the most abrupt and precipitous appearance, white fumes are issuing forth from a thousand different chasms, and of so suffocating a property that it was necessary to avoid them.

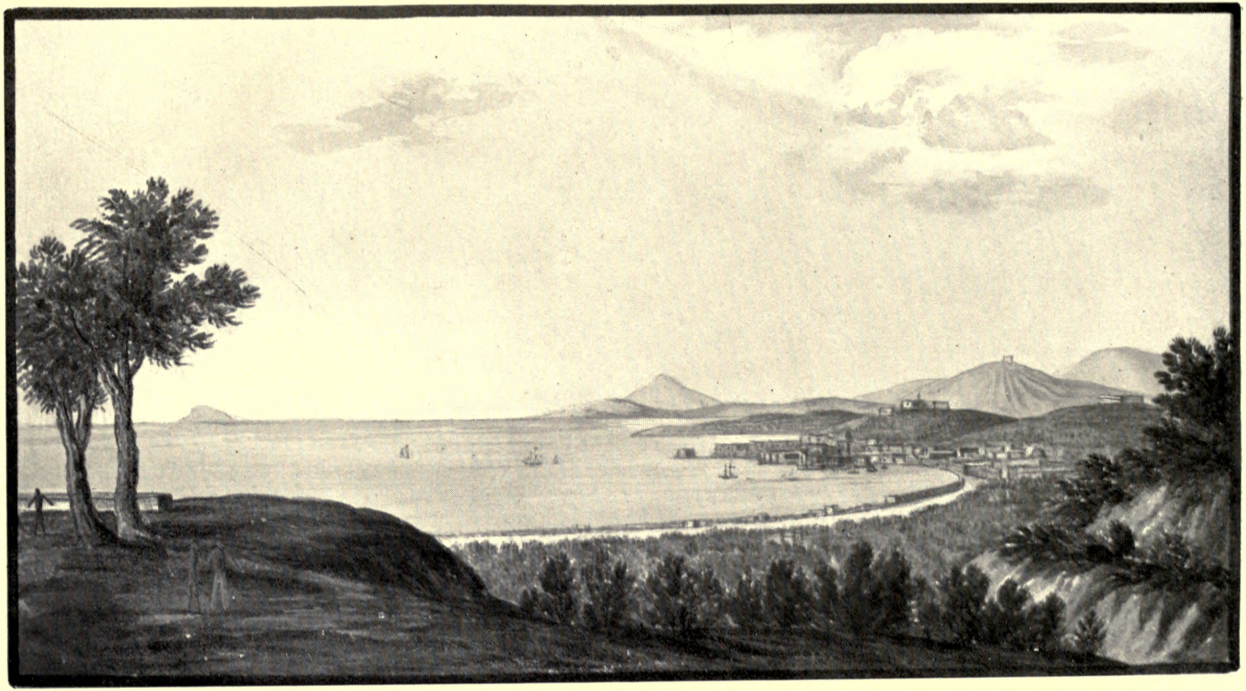
The wind, which had much increased the difficulty of the ascent, became very strong, and so much heightened the severity of the cold, that we did, *coolly* enough, though not very *calmly*, watch the more active points of the crater. At times, however, there was a lull, and then, though it was impossible to say what part, the roar of the crater swelled on the ear, like the fiercest blasts of an iron furnace. Re-echoing from one side of the smoking vomitory to another, these subterraneous thunder peals were accompanied with the projection of huge masses of terrific stones, tufa, and other loose materials, and their consequent precipitation amid thick clouds of ashes into the yawning depth of the crater's gullet beneath.

The crater, which is still 700 feet deep, must be daily filling up, from the changes going on round the interior of the cone, and it now presents a space at bottom of not less diameter, I dare say, than two-thirds of that of its mouth. No smoke ascends at present from it, and it is covered with the debris hurled from above. From the centre of the bottom various ridges run upwards to their respective sources of loose matter, and show where dilapidation or volcanic change has been lately most active. As such changes have been most extensive towards the southward and north, the edges of the crater are considerably the lowest in these directions; while in the two opposite, they are most rugged and fantastically high, appearing each moment on the point of falling from their fortuitous attachments, and, with all their smoking crevices, to be again lost in the depths whence they formerly had been evolved.

It was too boisterous weather to admit of our going round the mouth of the crater, and a short time sufficed to satisfy our curiosity, so piercing was the cold, as the day was now on the turn. From one point, then, we confined our observation, and that commands the greater part of the crater's elevated edges. These at one time were smaller in circumference, but now they are thrown out on such an extensive scale as greatly to diminish the panoramic view round the mountain. The most interesting section of it happened to be open to us, however, towards the northward and vicinity of Naples; and it embraced certainly as noble a prospect as the eye well could rest upon.

The most showy and central object was the city, and around it was a radiation of other towns, which, though less conspicuous from the distance, were still more attractive from the classic interest attached to them. Looking to the westwards, and left of the city, the rich fertile point of Posillipo was seen running out from behind it, and forming the inner barrier of the bay. As it anciently had been, so *now* it seems, a favourite spot for country residence, from the great variety of numerous villas adorning its declivities, and hallowed long will it remain, as the soil which tradition has informed us is assimilated with the ashes of the Mantuan Bard. Farther off in this direction, the outline is completed by the Cape Minerva, the isles of Procida, Capri, and Ischia, which beautifully flank the mouth of this celebrated gulf, and in history teem with the tales of other times.

Looking to the northward, next appear the volcanic-looking heights around Pozzuoli, the Lake Avernus, and sunny Baia, from which another point of land is seen shooting out in the bay, and crowned with the lofty cape which is now consecrated by the muse to the fabulous memory of the Trojan Trumpeter by the name of Misenus. Carrying the eye beyond this famous point, the horizon is partly



BAY OF NAPLES, POZZUOLI.

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filled up by the hilly bounds of Campagna Felicè, the elevated point of Circèllo, hallowed by the Syren adventure of Ulysses; while far in the distant lap of the Tyrrhenian wave, the little island of Ponza becomes the remotest object in that direction.

The rest of the picture is richly filled up with the wide fertile plains of the Campagna Felicè, which, decked off at different distances with the white buildings of Capua, Caperta, and Aversa, make, from the base of Vesuvius, a noble sweep of level country round the environs of Naples, insulating completely its heights and neighbouring hills from the distant range of Apennines, which fill up the background, as the boundaries of this beautiful country. Nature has certainly lavished many charms on the objects around, a few of which have now been mentioned; such is the contrast, however, opposed to them by the summit of Vesuvius, that their imagery is shown under every advantage that can result from comparison; for what greater relief can the eye have than in being diverted from the huge deformity of the yawning crater to the scope of pleasing beauty that is spread out around the mountain.

Our descent occupied very little time, for so steep is the cone, and loose its outer coating, that it was almost impossible to resist the velocity, which a few hurried steps forced one into, and there was little danger of being much hurt from falling, so deep were the sand and ashes for the greater part of the way. Having reached the place where the asses were left, and where we found the guide shivering worse than ourselves, we mounted; and after calling for a few minutes at the Hermitage, made the best of our time down the mountain. The sun had just set as we entered Resina. It was a fine night, however, and having been lucky enough to fall in with an excellent carrozza, we soon had ourselves placed round a comfortable table in Naples, and did justice to its palatable burthen, while we descanted largely on the subject of our day's peregrination.

Taking appearances, as presented along the common tract of Vesuvius, none of the primitive rocks are to be met with in their original positions, or seen cropping the surface. Every stone or mineral substance is either the production of, or has been ejected from its native bed by volcanic explosion. Such, at one time or another, has been the vast overflowings of melted matter, that where no doubt the beach at one time was naturally smooth and sandy, the traveller now lands at Portici on the consolidated lava, which has long presented a bold and firm barrier to the bay at this point.

In looking over the excavations of Herculaneum in the neighbourhood, they cannot long fail to become objects of the visitor's contemplation and wonder. For 70 feet below the surface he finds the works of the first century amalgamated, as it were, among an immense mass of lava rock; whilst the solid foundation now afforded by it is surmounted by the regal palace and the showy buildings of Resina. Considerations preservative of this place and its vicinity have long ago set a barrier to the progress of excavation; and with the exception of what is sufficient to identify the locality of Herculaneum, all the compass of its buildings and streets continue buried in the lava and other matters that overwhelmed them. Until they are destined again to come under the review of human eye from their hidden situation, an exalted spirit of wondering curiosity will be kept up from the sight of what has been exposed.

On first visiting these ruins, my own expectations were completely over-reached by the impressions excited by their admirable treasures; for to see and be convinced of such awful visitations as swept this city from the face of the earth, are very different from the imaginary feelings, which the descriptive pen of the traveller can inspire. On descending into the principal part of the excavation—the Theatre—it is astonishing to see how completely every cavity has been filled (as if they were moulds) with volcanic matter now a solid rocky stratum. Not only the plateau, but the different tiers of seats, the spacious corridors and rooms near the stage, and every cavity, however covered over by archwork or ceiling, had been completely occupied by the torrent of lava and liquid tufa. By means of sections in various directions, the body of these matters is very satisfactorily exposed to view, and in the different parts I was amused by the *naïveté* with which the cicerone pointed out *lava di fenestra*, *lava di scena*, *di porta*, etc.

Whatever the temperature of the lava might have been when liquid, it does not seem to have injured or affected the colouring which is still on the stuccoed walls. Everything of a combustible nature had been destroyed, for I could not see any vestige of wood in the Theatre. From the great depth of this building below the present street over it, the situation of the city must have been almost on a level with the beach; and throughout the bounds of this part of the base of Vesuvius, nothing can be seen of stone or more loose material but what was thrown out from the mountain. Fragments of various rocks are met with on the ascent near the Hermitage, such as granite, basalt, and even marble of great purity and white as alabaster. These all were insulated on the surface or half buried in the soil with which time has covered them. Of the basalt I saw some pieces of an immense size, that had been ejected from the crater, and one mass of a cubical form and about 4 feet square was particularly observable as demonstrative of the force which must have affected its transposition from the bowels of the mountain.

On the eastern side of the cone and high up on its interior face, this rock is seen forming a partial stratum of considerable breadth; and at a very few feet from the summit, it is seen sweeping across this part of the walls in a circular direction. Beneath it the rest of the side appeared of a similar nature to that covering it, namely, a composition of materials that had or were still undergoing change from heat. The proportion of sulphur entering into the composition of the volcano must be very great, for every place and material smell of it. Round the cone, and in some other places, the quantity of sulphur rock is astonishing, and especially near the top of the cone; and no less curious is it to see how the internal heat has sublimed great quantities of it. Covered with a brittle crust, it fills up many of the crevices with as fine flowers as could almost be had in the laboratory, provided it were freed from its sulphurous acid by washing. Though so near the surface, on breaking the incrustation it was found of a very high temperature beneath. The ice incrusting the sulphur in some places, beautifully exemplified its want of conducting property; and contrasted with the highly heated body subjacent presented an appearance no less curious than interesting. In some places where the sulphurous exhalations play through a hard lava, or more cool crevice, it is beautifully crystallised like the most delicate snowflakes.

The bird's-eye view of the coast from the mountain renders some of the volcanic features of the soil very remarkable. Considering Vesuvius, as it is really supposed to be, totally unconnected with the Apennine Mountains, any person who has previously examined the nature of the soft material of which the hills and heights around Naples are composed, cannot fail to infer their volcanic origin. Totally isolated at the distance of some miles from the adjoining mountains, they seem from this eminence hove up on the verge of the fine diluvial plain of the Campagna, and in their irregular; waving, or conical forms, and their contiguity to this still active point of subterraneous change, very forcibly corroborate the intrinsic proofs of their igneous origin. The tufa of these hills exactly resembles that with which Herculaneum is partly filled; though from my want of acquaintance with geognomy I am not aware how water, which must have been the menstruum of this stone in both places, was afforded in the cases remote from the sea, however evident its source may appear in the other.

Though not a very high mountain, at this season of the year the top of Vesuvius is surrounded by a stratum of atmosphere 22° of Fahrenheit below that round its base, as the following observations which I took with a pocket thermometer will show. The measurements taken by Humboldt in November 1823 are also noted as follows:—

At Resina the temperature was	54°
At two miles and a half up	46°
At the Capuchin Hermitage	41°
At the foot of the cone	36°
At the edge of the crater	32°

	Toises.	Feet.
The height of Vesuvius from the sea	608	= 3897
The height of Grand Cone . .	223	= 1429
Circumference of the crater . .	1500	= 9623
Mean drainer of crater . . .	500	= 3207
Depth of crater	111½	= 724

Figure elliptic, inclined to the N. and S. horizon.

CHAPTER XVII

Napoli di Romania—Argos visit—Ruins of Tyrinthe.

PENINSULA NAPOLI DI ROMANIA, OFF CASTRI, 11*th February* 1824.—The Gulf of Napoli di Romania (now Nauplia), which penetrates so far into the interior of the Morea, is formed on both sides by very high land, and with the exception of their being less wooded, both shores exhibit much of the scenic variety which characterises the general aspect of this country. The land to the eastward is the lowest, and though bold enough in many places towards the beach, the elevation of its hilly chain is proportioned to the basis it rests upon, and often remains uncovered with snow, when Taygetus, and the gigantic mountains of Malebos on the opposite side of the gulf, are proclaiming the reign of hoary winter at a great distance. Now both are covered deep with snow, and the cold blast of the north, losing nothing of its severity on their summits, conveys the most uncomfortable experience and good earnest of the extremes of this climate.

As viewed from the gulf, the most elevated points appear to be in the direction of ancient Sparta; though onwards through Arcadia the hills are of great height, and uniting with others in the neighbourhood of Mycene, make a gigantic sweep of barrier all round the head of the gulf. Looking directly northward from the Bay of Napoli, the high land is on a much less scale, or at least it less obtrudes from its distance, while the grand scope of rich plains around Argos presents an admirable extent of country to view. From 12 to 18 miles diameter, these plains occupy a beautiful situation at the head of the gulf, throw the rough mountain-peaks backwards to a pleasing distance, and stretching their level superficies close round the heights with which they are strikingly contrasted, bring beautifully forward in the picture the majestic Acropolis of Argos. On the other hand, a variety of ridgy hills, among which the shapeless ruins of Tyrinthe (Tyrius) are seen emerging from their grove of green olive trees on the foreground, fill up the picture in this direction.*

Being rather wistful to see some part of the country in this neighbourhood, and having, with some of my friends, procured horses at Napoli, I spent a day in riding over the plains of Argos and seeing the remains of this ancient place. The day was clear and unclouded, and the wind very temperate; and notwithstanding the very uncomfortable seats we had on our awkward wooden saddles, we had a very pleasant trip across the plains, and were much gratified with the slight traces now to be seen of this once celebrated city. There are several roads across the plains from Napoli to Argos and other places, some of which seem to have been paved with stones, and considerably elevated, to provide against the flooding of the rainy season. Such quantities of rain had lately fallen that we found the first part of the road and greater part of the plains to the eastward more or less flooded, and where the causeway had either naturally been low, or its foundation given way, we had to ford some extensive sheets of water. The numerous little bridges being also in ruin, and different runs for the water all dammed up, many acres were a perfect marsh, in which nothing but reeds and rushes were growing.

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* Argos taken by the Turks, 1716; surrendered to Greeks, 1826.

These once celebrated plains are become now the dreary domain of the water fowl, many of which we saw while crossing the road. This description of path we soon got over, and the irregular ruined causeway we had hitherto followed was afterwards lost in the extensive and unenclosed bounds of a drier though wet meadow-ground, which, continuing for two or three miles, brought us at length to a still drier soil, through which we found an excellent firm road into Argos, where we arrived after a ride of about two hours. Having but little time to spend, we did not lose any in waiting on the authorities at the castle for their assistance, but after something like a luncheon we contrived to make at what appeared a wine cellar, we rode hastily over the town and vicinity.

The approach to Argos must have been, as it still could be, made very fine; the ground all around it is as smooth as a bowling-green and studded over with beautiful clumps of green olive trees. The road leading in through these and numerous scattered huts, soon brings the lofty citadel in view, which has rather a grand and imposing appearance, for the bold hill on which it stands, spreading out very little towards its base, presents a towering rocky front towards the plains, and its venerable-looking summit, when contrasted with the insignificance of the town now surrounding it, not only reminds us how much the works of art are surpassed by those of nature, but of the countless events that have passed within its unchangeable outline.

Like most unfortified towns in the Morea at present, it is nearly in ruins. In its unravaged state it appears to have been but a very secondary place with the Turks, for with the exception of one or two good houses, now in ruins, it appears to have been a mass of low huts mostly constructed of earth. It occupies, however, a great space of ground, the extent of which one is not, from the beautiful level upon which it stands, aware of, on seeing it from a distance. The inhabitants have begun to repair it again, and there appeared to be a great number of men and their families moving about, and in one of the streets a number of little shops and stalls were erected. Finding them very civil to us, we soon fell in with one who, being able to speak Italian, readily enlisted as cicerone to show us the ruins. That of the ancient Theatre stands to the westward of the town, and under the citadel which towers over it. It has been cut out of the south-east base of the hill, which appears to be similar to the Acropolis of Corinth, being a solid limestone, or rather coarse marble rock. From the debris and earth, which, gradually accumulating, has rolled down over its interior, its own dilapidation, and the growth of wild herbs profusely clothing it, it is scarcely cognisable at any distance as a ruin.

On riding, however, over the site of its former plateau, now a corn field, to the first row of seats, its crescentic form is discernible, and the seats, gradually ascending, may be counted to the number of thirty and upwards, beyond which the rough peaks of the perpendicular or slightly inclined strata are seen shooting up in all their unpolished and primitive features. It has been somewhat elevated above the rest of the town, and, not as in our *houses*, the plaudits of the spectators must have been heard far beyond the bounds of their scenic ground, while instead of breathing an atmosphere corrupted and impoverished by countless lamps and lungs, they enjoyed the spectacle under the canopy of heaven, and the morning sun illuminated their scenery.

Looking round over the scope of panorama which this place commands, I could not but admire the grandeur, but particularly the combination of varied imagery that is presented. To the left or north, the first level of plain, some twelve or sixteen miles in diameter, is seen bounded by the hilly barrier of

Mounts Euliea and Midea, already mentioned, for nearly three-fourths of its circumference, while the remainder of the view is flanked by the lofty fortress of Napoli on one side, and Lerna's marshy level, the abode once of the hydra, now of the as pernicious malaría, on the other, and eked out by the ample bosom of the bay, which, in the distance, appears entirely shut in by the declining summits of Taygetus. Indeed, to reduce the whole view to its miniature, its relative parts might fancifully be compared to the building it is thus sketched from, for while the surface of the bay represents the stage, so do the plains and hills conceive the orchestra and seats for the audience.

Adjoining to this are the remains of another ruin which, judging from the history of others very similarly built, must be of a less ancient date. The cicerone said it was a temple of Juno, but it is said to be of Venus by others (*vide* Clarke). It is built mostly of red porcelain or brick, similar to those at Baia, and makes a considerable though solitary show at a distance. Greater part of the wall on one side and the end is standing, and part of some arched windows or doors are discernible on the other. Contiguous to it are some portions of marble pillars partly buried in the earth, and appearing out of which several foundations of wall and buildings are also to be traced. On first sight it struck me that it might have been built by the Romans after their having subdued the Peloponesus, so much does it resemble many ruins to be seen in Italy, and if so, with the ruins of modern Argos as destroyed by the Turks, it presented rather a singular combination of ruined structure from the days of the highest antiquity down to the present time.

Such now is the state of this famed spot of fable and Grecian glory, and though it is melancholy to see the ancient grandeur and pride of this country so low, or rather annihilated, still we cannot under the light of modern times retrace back the sunshine of such days when these buildings were all perfect, without considering them as having been glaring and ominous signs of the late and present times. By the licence of enjoyment which such places afforded, every energy of pristine intellect and bodily valour of a necessity must have yielded to subsequent oppression, and enervated and enslaved by such means, this country became an easy prey to foreign dominion. Not all the remembrance of the Herculean feats of their heroes' countless achievements, and the bravery of past armaments even thrust before their eyes in histrionic guise, could cherish among them that freedom which had been cradled in their mountains, and long shed its bright lustre over the wide world around them.

Leaving these ruins, we started again for Napoli, and as the afternoon was still fine and the sun pleasantly warm, we enjoyed the ride very much. Directed by our cicerone, we took a route somewhat different from that we had come, and which, though little better, afforded us an unexpected opportunity of seeing the ruins of Tyrinthe, an ancient city mentioned by Homer in the Iliad. The road was so smooth and pleasant for some way out of Argos, that we took it easy as far as the river Inachus. This celebrated stream, named after one of the first kings of Argos, traverses the plains towards the sea at about the distance of a mile from the town. Compared with its classical celebrity it is but small, not being more than 40 feet across. In some places, however, it is deep, and winding smoothly along its verdant banks, is only to be marked through its tract by little bridges of a single arch thrown across it in several places. From the late rains and thawing of the snow, its water appeared very troubled and swollen to the highest verge of its shadeless banks. Dreary and deserted as these appeared to be where we happened to cross, they appeared somewhat enlivened by several groups of women and children who, in the varied costume of the country, were busily employed in all the seeming security and contentment of domestic quiet, and, like the sailor who has again weathered the gale, apparently forgetful of all the turbulence that so lately darkened their country-side, and carried destruction to their very homes. The women were employed washing clothes in the stream, and the children at their gambols around them.

Proceeding onwards, we found the road soon assumed all the ruined, neglected, and flooded state that I have already described, and it leading pretty high up the plains, in less than an hour brought us close to the imperishable-looking remains of Tyrinthe. These, from the description of Anacharsis and others, I thought still existed, and had been looking for them two days before during a walk from Napoli. They consist of a mass of rude gigantic walls, which irregularly eke out the heights of a little rocky mount on the east side of the plains, about two miles from Napoli.

Overturned in several places, the style of structure is generally called Cyclopean, being composed of immense masses of unpolished stone, piled in the shape of walls on each other, and having their interstices filled up with lesser round stones,—in fact, a colossal example of what dry stone walls are in our own country. The faces of these stones, some of which are from 6 to 9 feet in length, are very irregular, and seem to have been detached from their respective strata long before the days of the chisel or compass, and when architecture had not as yet combined beauty with strength, but when imperishable security alone must have been the object of the builder. That many of these stones might have been brought from the neighbouring hills does not seem impossible, but that others have been, can hardly be conceived, without the pre-supposition of most extraordinary mechanical powers. That they mostly have belonged to the rocky eminence they are now seen on, there is a pretty good proof from the appearances of the other eminences in the vicinity.

These are all higher and crested over with the vertical ends of the different strata, which are mostly perpendicular, or seen bristling the outline of the hills at very great angles from the horizon.

Originally of a similar appearance as the Mount of Tyrinthe no doubt must have been, it is easily to be seen how such walls have been constructed, without the aid of any of those convenient animals, the Cyclops. With the assistance of the lever and wedge, such rocky crests might have been broken up into immense masses, and with little comparative labour detached from their lofty beds and piled on each other in those respective heights, the first appearance of which is most imposing to the stranger.

The country in the neighbourhood begins to be fertile and dry, and the olive groves, though now partly destroyed, seem to have been very extensive, and run up the different valleys that open into the plains. Neglect, however, stamps the scene wherever you go, and I never turn my back on this beautiful country without thinking what it might have been. Rather tired of our cattle we reached Napoli in good time, much enjoying the sunset on our approach to the gates, where soon afterwards our ears were saluted with the roll of the drum from the castle, and the gun which proclaimed the fall of evening round the ill-fated territory of Argos.

Napoli de Románia, formerly the grand naval port of this side of Greece, and then called Nauplia, has not suffered so much as many of the other towns in the Morea, owing, perhaps, to its having been maintained so long by one party, and captured from the Turks under circumstances which prevented its complete demolition. The rancour of hostility has merely been extended to what was most ostensibly Turkish, or connected with Islamism. Thus the mosques and different shrines of the prophet have been demolished, and now appear sad deformities in the place—having their entrances all choked up with rubbish ; and the courts which surround them are depôts for filth, while their burying - grounds can now scarcely be recognised, amid the ruin and neglect around them.

There was one thing that struck me as arguing little for the superstition of the Greeks, though perhaps not meant by them as an example of their humility and want of prejudice. The shaft of the only minaret left standing in the place was surmounted by a bell, and its wooden frame, the use of which, on inquiry, I was astonished to find was for that of a church to which the remains of the adjoining mosque was converted. The Turkish burying-grounds had been situated outside the gates ; and judging from the traces now left, must have been well embellished with the works of richly ornamental sculpture. Passing them, the stranger meets nothing scarcely that can point out where they have been ; for even where the inclosures were not levelled with the generally neglected feature of the grounds around, Nature, hiding from the face of day the contemptible effects of human vanity and passion, has coloured over the rifled sepulchre with the rankest of her vegetation. Shedding these apart through curiosity, one could not view the debris which they covered without reflecting that such analogous acts had occurred nearer home, but with this difference, happy for us, of their being registered higher up in the annals of human events.

To form an idea of the present state of modern Nauplia, we have only to imagine a maritime town which some centuries ago had been strongly fortified, but now deprived of that repair in which the Venetians had kept it, and with all the marks of its late master's neglect and native ease. At length it had fallen into the hands of a people who think themselves its righteous lords, and who as yet neophytes in power, and unorganised, have much to absorb their energies abroad, and seem not yet to have felt any care about their homes, for the place still continues a chieftain's hold and a rendezvous for soldiery.

Everything bespeaks the existence of sanguinary contest; nor has the general features of neglect, or want of means that characterises such precarious possessions, been changed for that of municipal comfort and order. The streets are filthy, and many of them obstructed with heaps of ruined houses and rubbish; and from the crowd of armed Moreotes moving everywhere, one can scarcely thread a way through them. Their uniform is apparently the Albanian costume, which is very handsome, and not unlike that of our Highlanders. Surrounded by so many kirtled warriors in their arms, one could almost fancy himself at some gathering of excited clansmen in the rear of the Grampians and far from the shores of classic Greece. Such an idea particularly occurred to me on seeing the present Governor of the place in his hall surrounded by his gaily armed adherents. Clothed in the richest of Albanian costume, with a mantle of gold-embroidered silk and ermine thrown carelessly over his shoulders, he was sitting in the centre of some cushions, after the manner of the country, at one end of the hall. Opposed to him at the other end, outside the verge of a Turkish carpet that intervened, was a great crowd of men standing girt, all in arms, and whose number overflowing at the door, even crowded the outer rooms, and exhibited in the thoroughfare consequently made at the entrance below, all that show of martial bustle which would at one time have so well set off the Gothic portals of a baronial castle.

Amid the crude garrison scenes of this place few women or children were seen; and the sombre-clad priest, who is generally no strange figure in the streets of Greek towns, did not appear to have at all assumed his proportion in citizenship; but as it is questionable whether even a St Peter elevating the crucifix among them would alone increase their energies into hostility to the crescent, he is perhaps as useful in his more tranquil retreat, while the contest between faith and faith is so doubtful, and so convulsed is every point of sanguinary collision.

Of saleables in the street, brown bread, arms, and tobacco, appeared the most plenty. I was rather astonished to see so many firearms at first; however, on considering the number of Turks who have perished or fallen into their hands, one abundant source must have been the spoils of the field—besides, they appeared mostly of Turkish manufacture, which is remarkable for its rich embossment and gay finishing. There is here nothing like an inn, and particularly such as their Western neighbours could fancy; of coffee-shops, however, there are plenty such as they are, where from morning to night the Moreotes are seen elbowing each other out and in with all the excitement and satisfaction of the gossiping cit of Western Europe. Whatever this town may want in these considerations, it does not in those which for the present are of more sterling use to it.

In the heights under which it is built, Nature affords points so well adapted for fortification, that in several directions they appear perfectly unassailable, and particularly the greater height which is crowned with the citadel. Passing landward through the gates of the town, this fortress fills the whole scope of view before you, and the eye, carried upwards over the grey naked crests of innumerable rocky strata, rests wearied at last on the white winding walls where the scull-cap of the sentry is hardly discernible.

CHAPTER XVIII

Phalerus — Athens Visit — Cephisus Plain — General Goura—Modern Town—Acropolis—Temple Olympus—T. Theseus—Parthenon—View—Areopagus.

Pireus, Athens, *April* 1824.—Athens, like most places of notoriety, is not wanting in the grander outlines that point out important localities in the distance, and the eye, sweeping over the relative situation, soon fancifully wanders among the blue haze of the deep gulf, and restively waits until the favouring breeze has developed each reality to view. Not long is the expectation of the stranger kept aloof after entering the Gulf of Egina; leaving St George's Island but a speck behind, and running past the green isle of Egina, the fair cradle of primitive learning is soon disclosed to view and spread out on the fertile lap of its own Hymettus, its temples and white columns are seen rising in all their characteristic imagery and relief from the bosom of the landscape. These structures at twenty miles off, or even more, are discernible with the naked eye, and in an afternoon, when the declining sun begins to sharpen the outline, they become striking objects to the approaching voyager in the offing, and still give a character to the environs alone peculiar to Minerva's native soil. Hemmed in by a noble barrier of famed mountains, on a fair extent of fertile plain, her monuments shoot up amid the surrounding verdure, and, as seen from the above distance, apparently enjoying their splendid solitude, uncontrasted with the mean roof of the modern Attican citizen.

In the distance the general appearance of this part of Greece is hilly and barren, and as in other places, its richness and fertility are only to be seen by closer inspection. The Hymettian ridge, bounded to the westward by the plains and gently elevated site of Athens, is rough, rocky, and wild towards its summit, but is covered with a livelier vegetation farther down. The withered-looking tinge of its thyme-covered rocks is seen fringed round with the green olive grove, which, expanding towards the sea, forms as beautiful a beach as the eye can rest upon. This low, intervening foreground is in many places of considerable extent, and gradually widening towards Athens and the Phalerum, exhibits a noble range of gently rising country, which again sinks into the wide extent of plain that throws the high range of the northern hills far to the background. Round the harbour the ground is thrown up into several elevated heights, which hide both the Acropolis and the plains from the outer anchorage, but which admit of both being partially seen from the basin of the Pireus.

This once famed seaport, now called Port Leone, is one of the finest little harbours I have seen. Of a circular shape, and about a mile and a half in circumference, it is screened from every wind as respects the sea, and with its remarkably narrow entrance, opens to the westward, with Salamis Island lying opposite. I was agreeably disappointed in not finding it that uninviting place which I had somehow or other imagined it. Though from on shipboard ruinous traces of its former days are quite discernible, still it is so neatly embosomed with green hills, and richly clothed with verdure to the very boundary of its little waves, that even now in its days of solitude its aspect is pleasing. In the immediate vicinity of no crumbling mountain, nor a reservoir to any destructive stream, it has, considered as a harbour, suffered little from time, and soon again might its little moles be repaired. Within its basin a good many ships might be moored, were fit moorings laid down, though at anchor or with common moorings it might not contain more than six or eight frigates.

To the eastward, and at a very short distance, are two other harbours, both less, and which have been of proportionate service to the ancient state. They are at a very little distance apart, and being formerly called Munychia and Phalerum, seem to have been the similar workmanship of nature, from the nicety with which they are embayed and the advantages they originally must have held out to their ancient masters.

Though time has pretty well defaced the ruins of their respective towns, still here and there, forming brows of perpendicular stonework, many remains of them still are to be seen, and the soil, as turned up by the plough, is almost wholly a commixture of broken marble and porcelain. Where streets and public places displayed the merchandise of every country, the ground is now smoothed into a green common, on which the shepherd tends his flocks in all the sad appearance of reversed civilisation. Belying all the changes which a Cecrops had effected on their primitive barbarism, many a cheerless Moreote is seen living now among the neighbouring rocks and ruined arches, while around the green boundary of the Pireus you cannot number a dozen huts, and these are only enlivened by a few fishermen, whose boats scarcely disturb that harbour's surface, which was once thronged with a brave navy and the bustle of war operations.

The towns of these three ports, the principal of which was the Pireus, were at one time all included within the bounds of Athens by means of two long walls, so that in warfare the communication between the city and its suburban port could always be preserved. Traces of the continuation of these walls around them are still to be seen in lines of low buildings by the water's edge. To the common observer, however, no remarkable ruin presents itself, so completely have vegetation and decay wrought their respective changes on the surface. It may be mentioned, that on the most westerly point of the Pireal promontory, and close to a rude built little beacon, the remains of Themistocles' tomb are still pointed out.* It consists of some low excavated stonework by the water's edge, exhibiting nothing remarkable in its appearance, and is the place where his remains most appropriately were deposited after they were transported from the place of his exile, and where his virtues and naval glory would be constantly brought before the eyes of his country's marine.

Immediately outside the narrow mouth of the Pireus, and on the south side, the little insulated platform, where the exile was allowed to plead his cause to his country, is still partly standing. It had been built on a low rock, which is now to be seen crowned with some circularly built stones, about three feet in height. Accustomed to the large and intricate harbours of his country, to crowded quays and peopled shores, where every rural feature is thrown far in the background, the Englishman, notwithstanding, here cannot look around him without saying how suited to Athens and the age in which she flourished, or feeling his reflections excited with a variety of considerations, all of which, as they regard either the natural advantages of the place or its past and present condition, throw out in bold relief the pre-eminence and virtues of its ancient masters over its late undeserving lords.

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* 'No breath of air to break the wave
That rolls below the Athenian's grave.'

Far from being dissatisfied with what Port Leone and its environs presented me for the first two days, still I passed them with some little anxious anticipations of the greater gratification I should experience on my visit to the city. I soon took advantage of the favourable weather then set in of accomplishing this object, and must say that in all I saw nothing fell short of my expectations, while many things surpassed them, and without the least degree of deference to the feelings which every traveller has expressed respecting the place, I must add that nothing I have yet seen has equalled in antique grandeur the appearance of Athens.*

Off betimes from the ship, we were soon in a scene that in some measure brought our country to mind. On the wharf at the Pireus, a great number of natives had assembled with their horses and asses, and immediately on landing we were assailed with all that turbulent importunity that so much characterises a ferry beach or an English hackney coach stand. Every one, though perhaps recommending his respective quadruped for what few of them possessed, since the horses are of very small size, promised little in his equipment for the comfort of the rider. A wooden packsaddle without stirrups and a rope halter was all the panoply they sported. Of all such demerits in horse flesh we made little account, as we soon forgot the discomforts of the saddle in the enjoyment of the path and the novelties which it unfolded.

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* 'Ancient of days, august Athena, where
Are thy men of might, thy grand in soul?'

The road leads first across the heights, which I have said encircle the greater part of the port, and nearly in the direction of what is laid down as the course of the great northern wall. On gaining the summit of this ground, the prospect around is beautiful, as it suddenly bursts before you and throws open the whole site of Athens at once. First, the rich plains are seen sweeping out all around you for miles, then the lofty Acropolis with its majestic fane, and in the rear the distant outline of Pentelicus with the other Attican mountains.

Proceeding downwards, the road very soon reaches the plain, where, taking a turn towards the right for a little distance, at length it takes the tract of the ancient wall, considerable pieces of which are still existing above the surface. The causeway in some spots consists entirely of it, and here and there numerous squared stones of great size lay detached from the line of construction, which for a considerable distance may thus be traced. The lowest or west end of the plain is the worst part, and, being subjected to all the floodings of the wet season, is very marshy wet, and now not so cultivated in consequence. Being also nothing indebted to the agriculturist, it is super-variegated by, or rather is the swampy reservoir for the little streams of the Cephisus and Ilyssus. About half a mile in this ground the rude pathway or road is traversed by a stagnant pool of water which, as connected with ditches or other choked runs of water, and being in the direction of the ancient Cephisus, must be an engorged course of that classical stream.

Passing this part of the road, where we certainly found some of the advantages of our quadrupedal mode of travelling, we found the grounds soon of a different character, and the path became flanked throughout, either with richly cropped fields of barley and corn, or was screened with rich copses of green olive trees. The road at first led in amongst the latter, and though shut in from the sight of the more interesting distance, the eye is most opportunely directed to the scrutiny of what Nature has lavished under it, and in the vigorous freshness of the green turf and rich colouring of the wild flowers enamelling it, one feels satisfied it is the soil where spring loves to dwell, and that it is in every way susceptible of the beautifying influences of this season.

The whole surface was one gala show of wild flowers, even to the very sides of the road; tufts of detached herbage in the most miry situations, and every intervening group seemingly vied with another, and sported in their own native bloom all the gaiety of the flower garden. In the shade or in the sun it was the same, no tree bore under it the marks of the sterile shade, so kindly is the atmosphere. Even beneath the thick shade of the green olive, not a leaf seemed to sicken, but close around each aged trunk, the surface was neatly cushioned over in all the lively contrast of its verdure.

Having passed pleasantly along the road which carries its direct line for about two miles through scenery of this description, the shelter and shade of the olive grounds were at length exchanged for the fine open country, the sunshine, and sight of Athens. It was about ten o'clock when we cleared the wood; not a cloud was in the sky, and every outline reposed in the transparency of the intervening medium; while the eye, in its eager flight, was not disturbed from the foreground that reflected nothing but the kindly colouring of the crops, which in their juicy freshness clothed the soil onwards towards the city.

With this change of scene, the road also changes its straight direction, and, leading to the left, makes an ample sweep round some gently rising grounds, and at length is lost where it bends downwards to the city. The whole extent of the modern town being hid from the view, the stranger seems only to approach the striking ruins of the ancient city, for until the height now taken notice of be gained, the Acropolis with its proud fane, and the top of Theseus' Temple, are the only structures that fill the prospect.

A few paces farther on, where the road attains its greatest elevation, the greater part of the place, both ancient and modern, is soon thrown open to the view. The lofty citadel is a majestic object, and there it is to be seen to great advantage, maintaining in the scale of its noble ruins every correct proportion and uniqueness when contrasted with the modern town. Unconnected with any other hill, the Acropolis appears completely isolated, and with the lesser hills of the Areopagus, the museum and public forum stretching out from its western base, it has a fine extent of level ground completely encircling it. This space is principally occupied by the present town, which, never having aught to recommend it in appearance, is now mostly in ruins: the wall enclosing which is, however, still perfect, though without the fosse and other modern works, and may perhaps contain about one-third of the bounds of the ancient city.

The north gate, at which we entered, is the direction of the Via Sacra and great road to the Academy, and had a guard of soldiers in attendance, and though certainly enlivened by them, a few pack-saddle horses, and some miserable mendicants, had all that cheerlessness about it which so well corresponded with the scene within, which was one of dilapidation and discomfort.* Though for some time past in possession of the Greek party, yet as they live in dubious expectation of fresh attacks from the Turkish army, all exterior to the Acropolis is reckoned of precarious possession. Perhaps also with the double views of saving labour to themselves and adding nothing to the possible use or convenience of the enemy, the whole place is still left by the Greeks in all the ruin and

* Athens taken by the Turks, 17th May 1827.

neglect to which it was formerly consigned, and it offers many a sad testimony of the effects produced by the present sanguinary contest. In every street gaps of ugly ruins meet the eye, and some houses are completely levelled in many places, exhibiting in recent ruin the sculptured fragments of ancient Athens, which time was suffered thus to vilify in the hands of its late masters.

In some parts considerable crowds of people were moving about, and all in arms; but the greater part of the streets that were standing looked deserted and untrodden; here and there an aged woman or solitary female with her child crossed the street; and in some places an old grey-headed man was seen dragging out from the mass of rubbish the half-burnt beam or piece of wood for his fire; while so feeble was the city hum, that from the more distant streets the crowing of the cock was the only sound that could be heard amid the funeral quiet that prevailed.

With the intention of first ascending the Acropolis, we left the horses at the house of an English gentleman, who kindly forwarded our wishes and received permission from the commandant for us to visit the citadel. On the way thither various objects appeared which time permitted us not long to examine. Some ancient public measures made of marble, and similar to what are seen in the museum at Naples, for a few minutes alone arrested our ascent. They were built close to an ancient house and were of different sizes, wide at mouth and narrow at the bottom, with small apertures to admit of the different measureable articles being readily drawn off when they were sold. If in their temples we have much both to deplore and admire, in relics like these we have certainly a true test of the virtue and sense of justice, if not of the character which has been reckoned to belong to the Greeks in all ages.

Passing these, our attention was next directed to the grotto of Pan higher up. It is situated to the left of the path, and looks like a rude excavation in the side of the hill, and is near to where the rock rises up very precipitously. From the winding of the path, which passes through heaps of rubbish and ruined walls, the eye is occasionally filled with the mass of fortress above, while the opening prospect beneath tells the height one is gradually surmounting. Formed by Nature for a citadel, the rock is of great height; its upper half springs up very bold and precipitous, and in the hands of a military people might be rendered impregnable. Indeed, it proves so in the hands of the Greeks at present, to whom, notwithstanding all its internal ruin and decay, it affords an independent security. Its rocky shoulders, seen towering far over the city and neighbouring heights, were eked out through their ample circuit with lofty walls, which inclose a greater space than when viewed at a distance might be imagined. The exterior pass or gate is not so high up as the ancient portal or Propyleum: it was apparently in a tolerable state of repair, and presented in the numerous guard that were in attendance a truly warlike appearance.

Dressed in their national costume, and begirt with arms, some were seen idling away their hours in all the ease of garrison security; while others, squatted on the ground, were only busied with their pipes, or conversing with those who were occasionally going out or in. To us they were very civil, and on receiving orders from the Governor, immediately gave us admittance, though they failed not to remind us afterwards for some token of our gratification. We were somewhat interested, after entering, on being shown the different points of progress the Greeks had made in storming the place, and the schemes tried by their opponents to resist them. At one point the Turks, apparently ignorant of the internal solidity of the walls and of the ruins of the more ancient and impregnable remains of buildings on which they were built or by which they were included, had, with a view to block up the gateway with sand or loose earth, made attempts to make a breach within ; but finding, after piercing through the modern wall, that it was backed by the remains of the ancient stonework of the Cyclops instead of loose materials, had been obliged to give up the *ruse de guerre.*

Passing the spot of recent warfare, a few paces higher up we arrived in the front of the Propyleum. This noble vestibule is still perfectly cognisable, though the south wing, I think, and greater part of the flight of steps in front are wanting, and all that now remains of this magnificent porch is pitifully amalgamated with the rude modern wall, which the eye of a Pericles had seen no necessity for. Part of this ruin ekes out the walls of a prison, and part forms the groundwork of the cannon's bed, or mingles in the rough mass of the modern fortress. Enough remains, however, to prove the devoted feelings of ancient Attica, inasmuch as the elevated precincts of their tutelar deity could only be entered by a threshold that proclaimed abroad the super-excellence of the interior.

Leaving the Propyleum on the left, and passing some rude modern buildings on the right, a little further on the west front the Parthenon bursts forth in all its ruined majesty. The eye, at once surprised and wondering, cannot for some time, in its attempts to grasp the whole, fix on any particular part of the sublime fabric, but in the shade of the first impression, flies from point to point, as on a vision that was just flitting from its presence. Though not so perfect as that of Theseus, afterwards to be mentioned, this temple is not like many others in its style of ruin, for its outline may be traced in a moment. Of a scale so gigantic, its dilapidated parts will long bid defiance to the progress of vegetation and decay, and they have now a freshness about them which little indicates they have withstood the ruthless arm of time, and which (pity it was!) has been heightened by the fresh ravages of a late earthquake, conjoined with those of the Turks and some Christians. Like that homage which ever clears the pathway for beauty in the world, the admirable lineaments of the Parthenon have been for ages the protecting ægis that has preserved the still existing relics of its grandeur and stability. The porticos of both fronts are the most perfect parts, and are in a good state of preservation, with the exception of the higher parts of the cornice and façade, which are rugged or broken, and deficient. A sufficient number of the lateral columns are yet standing to show the lines of the colonnade, some of which are more perfect than others. The greater part of those on the north side are, however, completely overturned, and the effects of the above-mentioned ravages have apparently been more destructive than the weight of the previous 1400 years.

Lying along the line of their overthrow, the disjointed pillars are piled on each other in the very sublimity of ruined art, and proud even in their undeserved degradation, they fail not to rivet the eye of the spectator on the nice traces of the chisel on the fair freshness of their several junctures and outer sculpture. On first casting a look on them lying at your feet, their developed magnitude is so imposing to the eye, that it is immediately averted to the nearest standing column, and with some degree of doubt the disjointed fragment is compared with those still *in situ*, but soon the pleasing conviction follows of the real grandeur and perfect symmetry of the building. I have learnt that it was during the siege of the Acropolis this destruction was done, when the starved Turks, finding themselves deficient in ammunition, upset the pillars and various parts of the building in order to get the lead, which connected the several pieces, for bullets. The mean mass of a Turkish mosque fills up part of the interior; alas! that during more enlightened days, the shrine of Minerva should until now have so long been replaced by that of Falsehood.

Such an edifice will, however, not long be a deformity in the face of these venerable ruins, for its proud minaret no longer stands, and the rest of it is used as a storehouse by the Greeks. In the south-west angle of the ruin there had lately been a spiral staircase; the steps are, however, either mouldered away or removed (for it is of very soft stone), but it still affords a passage, though not very good footing, up to the top of the façade. There, brought more in contact with the cornice and its ornamental sculpture, the architect or antiquary may revel on much beauty, though in the many artificial scars that deform it, both must regret the unfeeling acts that produced them.

The merits of Athens consist not alone in these admirable remains of its ancient grandeur and pride, but also in the numerous advantages it presents as to situation, the fertility of its surrounding soil, and the rich imagery which is its own peculiar feature. Nothing almost can surpass the panorama which is seen from this elevated point, for it is rich as it is pleasingly varied, and is certainly, I think, next to that of Naples Bay, as seen from the hanging gallery of St Martin or St Elmo. This difference exists, however, between them, in that while one has its features discomposed by elemental strife, the other is disturbed by the more lamentable contests of moral and political warfare.

Though only a short time on this elevated point, so impressive was the surrounding scenery, that it will be long before the recollection of its beautiful features are erased from my memory. Extensive plains, majestic hills, snug harbours ; indeed, the eye is filled with everything which can contribute to the growth and maturity of a great and free state, such as Athens once was. Looking first to the northward and westward, much of the happy soil of Attica is seen in the wide extent of plain spreading out in the direction of the Parnes and the famous Pentelicus. Sloping gently from under the city walls, the ground was at this time clothed in the light juicy green of the young crops, with which it is covered richly for about one mile distant, after which the darker shade of the olive fills up, in very striking relief, the next circuit of the plain, and in groves of unbounded limits marks far on either side of the Cephisus the course of that classical stream, till it is lost in the bare meadow-land in the rear of the Pireus.

Withdrawing the eye from these distant objects, a good bird's-eye view may be had of the modern town, which is mostly built on this side of the Acropolis. Like most Turkish towns in Greece, it has never made any show, if the yet existing remains of antiquity are excepted, and from this point appears a mass of irregular streets and low tile-covered houses, without any of that variety in public buildings which diversifies our greater towns. *No matter*, even the tall, tasteless form of the minaret is laid low, and in 1824 modern art keeps aloof from these environs, and, as if ashamed to face the yet inimitable ornaments of her ancestor, leaves her to proclaim through so many ages the perfect excellence of her handiwork.

To the westward the prospect is very extensive, and in a moment the eye can traverse, in a clear day, from the Areopagus at your feet to the far distant citadel of Corinth; while a more leisurely inspection may trace many interesting localities both by land and wave. First, on the one hand the hill called Museus, in the caverned chambers of which, opposite, the Sage drank the fated cup to please his country; on the other the Pnyx or Forum and its neighbouring eminence, from which St Paul preached the truth of Christianity.

Beyond these famous objects, the long walls are seen shooting out their radii of connection between the city and its ports, yet testifying the balance of respective interests which once existed between Neptune and Minerva. Next are seen the basin of the Pireus and its environs, the fine wooded island of Salamis and its many green hills, with the intervening channel, on which the noblest energies of Athens once were concentrated, and the ambitious hopes of the haughty Xerxes sunk into the waves.* It was early in the forenoon, and the horizon had not yet been swept by any breeze, so that the other shores of the gulf could not be clearly discerned; and although the land was seen in the direction of Corinth, still so softened down was every outline in the distance, that farther than 'rocky Megara' no remarkable feature could be identified.

Turning next to the southward, the scale of prospect is found somewhat different. From the base of the Acropolis the ground rapidly sinks, and being richly covered with corn, now in the green ear, forms a beautiful ravine, in which the clear little stream of the Ilyssus is seen sweeping from its hilly source, quite round you from the westward, and passing in its pebbled course respectively the gigantic columns of the Olympian Fane, the remains of the Amphitheatre, and other ruins, until it retires out of sight in the rear of the Museum. On the farther banks the ground is considerably elevated, and alternating with wide level patches, undulates along the base of Mount Hymettus, until, about five or six miles off, it forms a richly level beach in the distance. The gulf of Egina, widening outwards, soon leaves the eye bedimmed in fancy, such is the interminable range of its vision, that, sweeping over the islands of Egina, Epidaurus, and the grey outline of the more distant promontories, it rests finally on the wide expanse of the sunny Cyclades. The remainder of the panoramic circuit is filled up with rich mountain and vale, with Mounts Hymettus, Pentelicus, and the intervening little hills, which so much diversify the landscape.*

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* Battle of Salamis, 20th October, 480 B.C.

From all this, which I so long could have gazed on and studied, I was in a short time obliged to turn away, in order to complete the day's ramble in some other part of this venerable city. I shall not pretend to any architectural detail, but in the meantime shall merely observe that the remaining columns in the ruins of the Temple of Erectheus are of the most beautiful workmanship, and as such are well known to every student of the fine arts. The remaining statues or Caryatides in that building were also pointed out to us, and in the characteristic enthusiasm of the Greeks, were said to weep when one of their number was about being carried away. The spoliation of the ruin is most feelingly adverted to by Lord Byron in his inimitable 'Childe Harold,' and must endear the memory of his muse to every true son of this country.†

I may mention that on entering the Acropolis we first waited on the governor, General Goura, for the purpose of confirming him as to the motives of our visit, as well as to pay him the compliment due from strangers to his official situation. His house was one of the few within the bounds of the place, and is situated in a retired spot at the north-west corner of the fortress, but commands a view of the city and country to the northwards. Outside, a few adherents, loitering about in arms, pointed out the entrance, while after ascending a rude modern staircase, we were ushered in before Goura, who occupied a small room at the end of as rude a balcony. Like most apartments in this country it was fitted up after the Eastern style, with Turkey carpets and low cushions or ottomans round the greater part of the apartment. These had little, however, of the fancy glitter or ornament of luxurious and easy times; but being long bereft of their bazaar glare, were much of a piece with everything around them. The appearance of the hall at once bespoke the warrior's retreat, and the number of sabres, pistols, and other arms, hung all around the walls, were its only ornaments, though, by-the-bye, from the seeming neglect of order and arrangement, these seemed to display more of the watchful readiness of war than the ornamental parade of a scenic representation. This Greek had, I am given to understand, raised himself from the common soldiery by his intrepidity and bravery; and in one of the late campaigns, he defended the pass of Thermopylæ with a very few men, again reviving the heroic deeds of Leonidas, but with less fatality to his followers.* He appeared to be about thirty-eight years of age, and, as a soldier, he has rather an imposing look, both as to his physical and physiognomical qualities, being, though not tall, extremely muscular and athletic, with a determined *brusquerie* of air and hardihood of feature that bespoke him long trained to the field or his native mountain, and a stranger to the half extinguished energies and narcotically fed spirit of the indolent Turks. To a person newly emerged from the happy complacency and domestic regards of civilised society, the appearance of this Attican would certainly have been repulsive; but when the circumstances of his life and present situation are, however, viewed with him in the aggregate, who is there that cannot account for the serious intelligence of his eye, or for features which are moulded for the storms he has still to encounter.

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* 'And still his honeyed wealth Hymettus yields.'

† 'The last, the worst dull spoiler, who was he?
Blush Caledonia, such thy son should be.'

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* Battle of Thermopylæ, 13th July 1822.

The bounds of the Acropolis, if cleared of all its rubbish, would appear of considerable extent, and the symmetry of the Parthenon, though of such a magnificent scale, could be seen to much more advantage from the space around it than St Paul's, or even Westminster could be from their respective areas. Desolate and neglected as all the different ruins of the Acropolis appear to be, no less is the ground from which they continue to rear their storied fragments. From one corner to another it is covered with a deep stratum of rubbish and loose stones, the depth of which is shown in the footpaths cleared out in different directions. Mingled up in one general crumbling mass, the different materials are seen, which in succession have been possessed by the Pagan, the Christian, and the Mussulman ; and which, now neglected by all time, is fast assimilating to the soil, and inviting the dull train of rank weeds to proclaim the reality of his triumph.*

The late changes in the country, however, may soon alter the appearance of the place, and already are their influence felt. Some of the prisoners of war are employed in clearing out the buried remains of antiquity, and when returning towards the gate I saw several of them ironed and at work under an armed guard. Any man when in the power of another is at all times a pitiable sight ; and these, considering they were Turks, or of Turkish habits, were true pictures of misery. Stopping to look at them, I could not but think on the Christian slave under the burning sun of Africa, and while pitying them, thought how low is the civilisation of this country, and the contrast it makes with the more enlightened state of society around.

Descending again through the different passes, and finding the horses waiting outside the gate, we mounted and visited in succession—the summit of Mount Museum, the ruins of the Olympian Fane, the banks of the Ilyssus, Hadrian's Gate, the Lantern of Demosthenes, the Temples of Eolas and Theseus, and several pieces of defaced statuary dispersed throughout the town ; these, with the Areopagus and the Pnyx or public Forum, are the principal amongst the remarkable objects outside the fortress.

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* Acropolis blown up by explosion in siege by Venetians against the Turks, 1466.

The top of the Museum is crowned by what has once been a fine monument ; it is much defaced, however, though the antiquarian could, no doubt, find some curious decyphering in the remains of the bas-reliefs still visible upon it. It had been erected to one of the Roman Consuls named Philoppapas, which name it still bears. In the side of the same hill, facing the Acropolis, are several excavations in the form of cells or small chambers ; some have thought them prisons, but others that they were tombs or crypts, and curious as their inspection might have been, I could necessarily spare but little time on them at this visit.

The ruins of the Temple of Olympian Jove* appeared to me the most magnificent piece of antiquity I had ever seen, not even excepting the Parthenon. Its columns are somewhat larger, of the Corinthian order, and from a rough calculation cannot be much less than 6 feet in diameter and nearly 60 feet in height, and one stone of the architrave is 22½ feet long by 3 feet wide. Being apart and not blocked up by ruins, rubbish, or houses of any description, but standing on a fine open piece of level ground on the elevated banks of the Ilyssus, they are shown off to considerable advantage, and are surrounded to their pedestals with the luxuriant crops of the soil. This ruin is one of the objects seen at such a distance, pointing out, in the splendid whiteness of its columns, its situation in the landscape; and from the combination which it presents of so much grandeur and ornament (for its capitals are elegantly sculptured), is a most admirable object when viewed from its area. This ruin consists of a group of columns with the cornice composing nearly one end or front of the temple, apart from which are three others, which had been part of the portico of the east side, and the whole are in excellent preservation. Perched on the top of them are the remains of a rude cell once inhabited by a hermit, who died in his eyrie some few years ago, but which is now only tenanted by the hawk which we saw flying around it.

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* ‘Here, Son of Saturn, was thy favourite throne.’—*Byron.*

This place being but a few yards from the Ilyssus, I rode down to see whether it was still entitled to the name of a stream; for by some authors it is stated to have been long ago dried up and obliterated. Although the rainy season was past, there was certainly a small body of water flowing down its channel. It was very pure, and sufficient not only to form a pretty little cascade right opposite to the Temple of Jupiter, but to induce the women from the town to repair to its banks for the purpose of washing and bleaching, several of whom we saw busily engaged at that occupation at the time. Adjoining this stream are the remains of the Stadium and the Temples of Ceres and Diana, but time did not permit us to inspect them during this visit.

Returning up the north bank of the Ilyssus, and again towards the above-mentioned temple, there is an excellent view of the more gigantic features of Athens, and in the combination of the several objects of locality a fit subject is presented for the pencil. With the superb columns of Jupiter's Temple in the richly cropped foreground, the pompous arch of the Adrian Gate, built A.D. 128, and the venerable magnificence of the citadel in the rear, the eye can hardly be filled more richly with such a species of imagery.

The Temple of Theseus, which was erected 469 years A.C., and where the remains of that celebrated King of Athens were deposited by Cimon, being seen after what has already been described, appears rather tame as to magnitude. Its plain Dorian beauty, exquisite proportion, and chasteness of style, pronounced it a *chef d'œuvre* in architecture; and were it not for the meanness and deformity around it, even after a period of more than 2000 years, it might still, if placed in a modern city, be estimated a perfect public building. It has been latterly used by the Greeks as a church, and one end of its interior yet remains decorated with their paintings, etc., though now it is desecrated for that purpose, and bears testimony to the violence of the times.

The day on which I and my friends visited it, it was the scene of a contest between two parties of idle boys, in which the one side with stones was attempting to dislodge the other, who had shut themselves in it. They offered us no molestation, but on our expressing a wish to get in, opened the door, suspended their combat, and in a few minutes were seen dancing on the grass before its portico. I saw several fragments of antique slabs lettered in Greek and commemorative of the dead. There were some in Latin of modern date. One in Greek was to the memory of Mr Sueddall of Northumberland, a young traveller who died on the 25th July 1799. It was composed by Mr Walpole and placed here by Lord Byron.

This fane has a fine showy situation, being a little to the north-west of the hill called the Areopagus, and though on a lower eminence, it is nevertheless many feet higher than the general level of the city. This eminence extends some way back in an easterly direction, and forms a fine plot of ground on that side of the Temple, and was probably used for the accommodation of the people during the festival. When the handsome porticos of this building and its surrounding grounds were enlivened with the youth and beauty of Attica, this must really have been an enchanting scene, and I can picture to myself the many heights which overlook it, covered by spectators, proudly admiring the long lines of youths drawn out towards the fane of their deliverer, or listening with delight to the festive songs of rejoicing.

After leaving this, we next went to the Areopagus, which lies between the Temple and the Acropolis. Dismounting, we ascended on foot, and being unable to identify the remains of stonework yet visible around it, which the natural decay of the hill or earthquakes must have greatly displaced, we sat down on a little knoll to rest ourselves, with the green sward, which at this season was in its vigour and enamelled with an infinite variety of wild flowers, exhaling around us a sweet and highly fragrant perfume. Forgotten and ruined, or indescribable as the parts of the eminence may be, I was happy in recalling to my mind that here were the simple dictates of Christianity first opposed by the eloquence of St Paul to all the sophistry and intellectual pride of Athens, and that on this spot an Areopagite himself was persuaded to acknowledge them. No wonder, I also thought, that the great Apostle, on looking around, above, and beneath—his sight filled with the sublime structures reared on every hand in honour of the gross abstractions of the natural mind, and to gratify the several passions of the great, the cunning, the sensual, and the ignorant—should exclaim, 'I perceive, ye men of Athens, that in all things ye are too superstitious.'

CHAPTER XIX

British Fleet—Cannonade, Algiers.

Off Algiers, N. Africa, 25*th July* 1824.—We arrived off Algiers on the   day of July, and continued as one of the blockading vessels until the 24th, by which time the admiral and the bombs, etc., had joined, making in all a force of about twenty-one sail of vessels. Though nothing operative took place, the approach of our squadron to the town and their station was rather pretty, considered as a spectacle.*

Soon after daylight every ship made towards the bay, and after eight o'clock, followed the flagship in. At about the distance of four miles off, each ship hove to in succession, and signal being made for the bombs and mortar vessels to take their stations and prepare to attack the enemy, the Meteor took the lead, and was followed by the others. The flagship was towed in by a steamboat, and the other ships followed in succession, but at a slow rate, as the wind was light.

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* August 18, 1816. Bombardment by Admiral Exmouth for European massacre at Bona.

The day was particularly fine and clear, and as we gradually neared the town, the lines of batteries could be seen all well manned, and the blood-red flag was flying in every direction. In advance of the town, a line of gun-boats were also drawn out, each with its flag, and, in short, every point seemed well prepared for resistance.

About half-past twelve at noon the Etna had no sooner come to an anchor in her station, which I understood was more than two miles from the town, than by a signal gun from the Dey's palace over the town, a general fire of shot and shell was opened on her and the headmost ships from every battery in the place, and in a few minutes the whole town was enveloped in clouds of smoke, through which the lines of batteries could only be distinguished by the repeated flashings of the guns, added to which the noise produced by such a fire greatly heightened the effect.

Though the atmosphere had been previously undisturbed and clear, the scene of combat was now completely darkened, and the ear was confused with the repeated concussions from the discharge of cannon or bombs. The greater part of the shot fell short of the fleet, and those shells which might have been effective all burst in the air without doing any damage. Not a shot was returned, but every ship and bomb stood in coolly to their station, and the menacing display of the barbarian's wrath, however much it at first augured of wounds and the other fatalities of the combat, was as suddenly silenced as our determined approach to his walls had then called it forth. The white flag hoisted by the Commander-in-chief was in a few minutes acknowledged by the enemy, and each battery ceasing its fire, everything was in *statu quo,* as if a friendly salute only had been fired.

CHAPTER XX

Bodrun—Action between Greek and Turkish Fleets—Asia Minor.

GULF OF BODRUN, COS ISLAND, CARIA, ASIA MINOR, *6th September* 1824.—Another summer has passed without bringing the contest between the Turks and Greeks nearer to a termination. Both field and wave have again been stained with the usual sanguinary proceedings, and while one party has gone far in establishing a naval character, the other appears to be losing any claims they may have possessed as a warlike power. So long as the Greeks contrive to increase their resources, as they must have done this summer, the Turks soon must yield up the subject of their disputed sovereignty, unless the growth of their opponents draws forth their military energies with more effect than heretofore.

Yesterday afternoon afforded us a fine opportunity of bearing witness to one of the most determined acts of bravery that can well be imagined on the part of the Greeks. After running through the Straits of Scio, Samos, and Cos, we came on Saturday morning to an anchor among the Turkish fleet, which occupied an extensive anchorage off Bodrun, which is opposite

Cos and in the mouth of Stanco Gulf. They had been obliged to bear up to this place, after the recent attempt they had made to land on Samos, and where they lost a frigate, a corvette, and some smaller vessels, which the Greeks burnt with their fireships. They were here not safe from the determined attack of their opponents, and although with the Egyptian squadron which had joined them here, they mustered an expedition of not less than 200 sail, the Greeks did not hesitate to beard them in their own ports, and that with a force and under advantages in many points not to be compared with them.

Among the most effective of the Turks, I may enumerate one 80 gunship, 17 frigates, and an immense proportion of corvettes, brigs, schooners, and gunboats. The Greeks, on the other hand, had not a vessel larger than a brig, and some of these very small. With about 70 sail they left Patmos yesterday morning, and running down before a fine north wind, hove in sight of the Turkish fleet early in the afternoon, and about four o'clock coming in contact with those who had stood out to meet them, were soon brought into action. At first they seldom fired, and to our great astonishment two of the headmost brigs never hauled their wind, but, regardless of the fire of every ship that successively attacked them, ran through the midst of them, directing their course to the 80 gunship, which by this time had weighed and was standing across from the anchorage towards the town of Stanco, and across the apparent course of the Greeks. Aware, however, of their being fireships, one of the frigates, after expending his broadside, also bore up, keeping up with the others a running fire on the brigs, which, notwithstanding the immense force through which they had passed, soon would have gained their object in running aboard of the Pasha. Having come within gunshot he fired his tremendous broadside, after which, finding these solitary fireships still coolly bearing down on him, he bore up and ran with all sail to leeward out of reach of shot. While in the act of wearing under our stern, he carried away some of his spars aloft, and being unable again to stand out afresh, was obliged to run into the harbour of Bodrun.

In the meantime the Greeks kept pouring down before the wind under all sail, one after another bearing the repeated fire of the host of strong Turkish ships that so pusillanimously disputed the ground, which they, the Greeks, so fearlessly gained.

About an hour before sunset they formed themselves into a beautiful line of battle, or rather defence, off Stanco Castle, each filling on the starboard tack, forming an elbow towards the enemy. Finding that the Pasha, their principal object of vengeance, had escaped from their hands in this inglorious manner, the leewardmost vessels or fire brigs, which had given chase to the line-of-battle ship, hauled their wind as if seemingly at a stand, or with the intention of keeping the strong force of the enemy at bay. This motion was soon followed by the rest of the fleet, which now amounted to about 70 sail of brigs. Being embodied in a line they kept their luff so that, while they avoided a heavier fire separately, they continued to gain ground, only returning the fire coolly and cautiously which the Turks incessantly kept up on them, when they approached sufficiently near to make a return with effect. Seen in this position from our ship; with their white sails filled in the breeze, and in the embattled state they then assumed, the Greek line looked remarkably fine, considering they had not a vessel of a frigate size among them, while the style in which they regulated their fire on forming their line, showed how systematically intrepid they conducted themselves, and that even the failure of their first onset did not confuse their ulterior manœuvres.

Quite otherwise was the conduct of the Turkish and Egyptian Fleet, for particularly when the Pasha yielded ground to the fireships and bore up before the wind, the whole of them for the time appeared panic-struck, and many large ships in imitating his motions, rather surpassed him in point of speed, and ran many miles to leeward. Some of the Egyptians who had been late getting under way seemed for a time to re-instill a degree of courage among them, and tacking astern of us, one after another stood out towards the Greek line on the starboard tack. Careful, apparently, of not grappling too close with the Greeks, they commenced firing at very long shot indeed, then rounding off when a little nearer before the wind, they severally expended their fire in one or two broadsides and kept away in the usual manœuvre to leeward again. Not a single frigate hove to for a fair engagement, but finished the bold sally made out from the anchorage in the manner described, though some of the smaller vessels regularly engaged their opponents, and a sharp conflict was seen taking place before dark between two corvettes, in which the captain of the Turkish one was killed. The fire was kept up most obstinately by some of the small craft even after nightfall.

As all this series of fighting could hardly be expected to go on without some damage to both parties, about six o'clock one of the Greek fireships having had one of her upper spars shot away, was seen on fire, and we, of course, thought with effect, but we afterwards learned that her disabled state obliged the Greeks to fire and desert her, to prevent the enemy getting possession of her. This vessel burned a long time, and its luminous appearance considerably added to the effect of the flashing of the guns by night, and afforded us an opportunity of seeing what a fireship is when inflamed. The masts, yards, rigging, and every other part of the vessel appeared to catch fire simultaneously, and when wholly ignited, it formed a splendid object amidst the surrounding darkness.

Though the heavy firing ceased soon after dark, it was continued at intervals until past eight o'clock, after which, and during the first part of the night, the

Greeks were seen regularly and in order beating up out of the gulf, only lamenting, I suppose, the unenergetic resistance made against them had afforded them no opportunity of expending their own energies on an enemy, against whom the late massacre at Psara had called forth their oaths of vengeance. Many, indeed the greater number, of the Turks kept under way all night, and it was not before to-day in the afternoon that they all came to an anchor, several of them having received a good deal of damage in beating up to windward in the morning to look after the motions of the Greek Fleet. As the season is now fast advancing in which the Greeks will, from their superior seamanship, have the advantage, the combined Turko-Egyptian Fleet cannot but anticipate a continuance of such disasters if they do not soon take shelter within the Hellespont.

CHAPTER XXI

Athens, Second Visit—Erechtheion—Lord Elgin.

PIRÆUS, 17*th September* 1824.—I took advantage of another opportunity of visiting Athens, and spent a whole day in again examining some of its many interesting objects, and particularly some of those which my former visit had not permitted me to see. So far as regards the last, I perhaps experienced fewer of those feelings which are induced by the novelty of spectacle, than that calm gratification which familiarity with an object or a more intimate knowledge of it generally produces. From the examination of the sculptural detail, one is led to consider the hand and the ingenuity that delineated it; and after these the still more abstract relationship, which must have existed between the execution of such pieces of art and the primary design with which the irrespective blocks were first dislodged from the face of Mount Pentelicus. This is the clue for unravelling the history of mankind in past ages, and, I doubt not, for convincing us that men possessed the same passions and propensities in all ages, whatever may be the *outré* proceedings of their common career.

The glory of the world, a desire for which we often all are more or less actuated, conjured many of these piles into symmetrical existence; and while a Pericles or an Hadrian paid homage to the religion of their country in the construction of such superb temples and other public structures, they at the same time were associating their own names with the new and lasting lustre of their times. Though, figuratively, they stand forth, both in feeling and taste, as the representatives of their generation, in such remains of ancient greatness nothing now sounds in our ear as we pass them by, but the names of those eminent individuals, or perhaps the artist who executed them. Setting aside such speculations, however, and all considerations of the superstition and falsely directed energy into which the human mind had at one time been trained, I proceed to say, that all I had before seen I had much pleasure in again examining; and, with the sight of what was new to me, felt highly gratified as every object declared the effects of public spirit as well as the grandeur of its design.

The Stadium is well worthy of inspection. It is situated to the south-east of the Acropolis on the farther bank of the Ilyssus, to which it opens at one end. It is on an immense scale of an oblong shape, and seemingly excavated out of the hilly bank of the south side of the stream. Having been constructed for a racecourse, its area is large and in its other part resembles a theatre denuded of its seats. From different accounts, its benches were once of marble, and fit to accommodate an immense multitude of spectators; now, not a piece of them remains, though, according to Pausanias, the Greek historian, a whole quarry at Pentelicus was completely exhausted in its construction, and where the athletic natives once filled the ring of emulation, and thousands were amused by the spectacle, the modern Attican yearly cuts his uncherished crops, or sees the wild shrub as often wither around it.

Opposite this place, on each bank of the Ilyssus, the ruined landstools of an ancient bridge are yet standing, which it is evident led directly from the north side of the city into the area of the Stadium. Having rode up to these remains and through an excavation on its north side, I returned to cross the Ilyssus on my way back to the town, and had another draught of its limpid waters. At this season it is a mere rivulet, and somewhat lower down becomes entirely expanded in its pebbled bed. What little water it did contain appeared to be of great utility to the people; for wherever it settled in anything like a little pool, there were numbers of women washing their clothes.

Passing on from this renowned stream in the direction of the street of the Tripods, I spent a little time in looking at some of the ruins in that direction. No traces of the Theatre of the Odeum, which was once situated at that angle of the Acropolis, were to be seen ; though the remains of the Theatre of Bacchus, particularly the scenic part, still exist in a perfect state at the south-west angle. High up on the rock, in the direction of the supposed site of Odeum, are two pillars in most beautiful preservation, and surmounted by an ornamental capital of a triangular form at top, for the reception of the feet of the Tripods. Directly under these we entered into a small cavern in the rock, which is enclosed by a marble antique front, and which, from the remains of painting and an elevated altar inside, had been very lately used as a Greek chapel, called the Blessed Lady of the Grotto. Over the entrance was an inscription, on the marble, of which nothing could be easily made out except the name of Thrasyllus. It is not, however, now used for any purpose, and only exhibits to the stranger another trait of the times in this ill-fated country, every figure or painting of a sacred nature being despitefully defaced or half erased by the hands of some infidel or other.

In a crevice of the rock inside of this place I took notice of a beautiful horizontal stratum of calcareous spar, well crystallised, loose in some parts, in others firm, and of a satin colour and stalagmitical appearance. From the nature of the rock forming the Acropolis, this part being of red breccia, this spar is a very natural formation here as well as in any place over which calcareous rock has been or is incumbent; but where this crystallisation is found on an eminence, as at the top of Vido at Corfu, the same formation cannot be accounted for, at least on Neptunian principles.

After spending the best part of the day in riding, walking, and again admiring the superb remains of ancient art, I sat down to dinner in what is termed a locanda (or rather a café, as it should be called) about four o'clock. Though a grotesque *set out*, our appetites being improved by exercise, led us to find little fault with anything. In an old rotten balcony, under which the Greek soldiery were drinking coffee and playing at cards, our table was laid. No tablecloth, no change of plates, knives, or forks; but in other points the meal as much resembled an Italian dinner as could possibly be expected from a Greek among the ruins of Modern Athens. It consisted first of vermicelli soup, in which lemon was squeezed; boiled lean mutton, fried cold fish, cucumber *drowned* in oil and vinegar, omelet with plain boiled eggs, then cheese, and grapes and figs for a desert. The wine was good *vin du pays*. The house, of course, like all such in the country, was large enough, but dirty. Below was the larger public coffee-room furnished with rough tables and elevated platforms for cushions or carpets, and filled with soldiers in their gay arms and Greek costume, smoking and playing at cards, or keeping up the Attican loquacity of their forefathers. When we arrived early before breakfast, there they were playing at cards, and we left them similarly engaged at sunset. They showed us no incivility, but much brusqueness and rather obtrusive forwardness marked their manner, though in a less degree than might be looked for from such an idle, ungarrisoned, and roistering soldiery.

The bazaar was well filled with a variety of merchandise, such as cotton goods, both foreign and Greek silks, and different kinds of clothing, besides arms and ammunition. The latter article was characteristic enough of the times, and being made up into ball-cartridges for immediate use, was exposed on several stalls: besides these there were plenty of spices, tobacco, pickled fish, and a variety of hardware. Though late in the day when we went through it, some patience was, from the crowds flowing hither and thither, necessary for making one's way. This part appeared to be the principal focus of activity and stir, and though not a much greater number of houses appeared in repair, its appearance was considerably different from that in the month of April.

The inhabitants had not confined their lines of defence to the walls of the Acropolis this last summer, but had put the city walls in a state of defence, and repaired them where necessary. At regular distances there are little square towers, and on some of them guns were mounted, while at every fifty paces or so scaffoldings were raised against the wall inside, for the purpose of bringing their musketry into play in case of an attack from the enemy. Though threatened with an assault, they completely anticipated it in July, by meeting the enemy outside the walls, and putting them to the rout before they reached the place. The present governor (General Goura) accomplished this feat, and with only about 1000 men drove several thousands of the Turks completely out of the plain, posterior to the action at Marathon, where he had equal success.*

Warlike though the town appeared, the country around was much less so than formerly; for while numerous flocks and herds were ranging the stubble whence the crops had all been safely gathered, the vineyards were crowded with the peasantry gathering in the remains of the vintage; and on the road numerous parties of them and their children passed loaded with fruit for the town, or with articles were going outwards to the country. Everything in fact betokened an increased confidence in their homes, and the progressive footing which this summer had given them in their political existence.

In passing the house which had formerly been the British Consul's, I took a peep into the yard, where I had seen some fine pieces of sculpture in April. They were still there, but the earthen cast of one of the Cariatides of the Erectheum, sent out from England by Lord Elgin, was completely demolished, and its numerous fragments were scattered

* When Marathon became a magic word.

all over the place. From its being but partially injured in April last, it may be inferred that the Greeks themselves had done this, in order to testify their contempt for the act which caused it to be sent; and though tenaciously jealous now of any attempt being made to carry away the least piece of sculptured marble, they say any one may take what he chooses of this sorry substitute.

What I enjoyed the most of all yesterday was the ride up from the Piræus in the cool of the morning. I was on the beach about sunrise, and I hardly ever felt the delights of the country more sensibly. The sun, which was soon seen rising before us over the top of Mount Hymettus, augured a fine day, and while behind us every object became illumined with the rich rays of the rising sun, the distant scope in advance lay obscured in the blue hazy shade of the morning, and from which direction the fresh cool breeze abundantly saluted us. Passing occasionally the peasantry and their horses laden with grapes and quinces, we were regaled with a deliciously cool bunch from their hampers; and in emerging from the olive-skirted path on approaching Athens, I was almost sorry that the distance had not been twice as long.

Notwithstanding the enjoyment I had in breathing freely such a temperate air, the average heat of the day being 75°, the appearance of the country was widely different from that in April. Instead of the universal verdure and display of bursting flowerbuds, every object testified the ravages of the summer heat; the herbage had entirely disappeared, and where I formerly rode through rank crops of bearded wheat and green barley, nothing was to be seen but a dry stony surface, which, without the relief of the contiguous vineyards and olive-groves, reflected only the sandy heat of the desert. At this time the olives, being in their vigour, looked refreshingly green, and, loaded with young fruit, formed a remarkable contrast to the yellow, dry plain that surrounded them.

CHAPTER XXII

Tomb of Themistocles—Athens, Third Visit—Temple Theseus, Scene.

PORT PIRÆUS, *September* 24, 1824.—Five days ago I walked round the ancient boundaries of the Piræus after landing at the south side of the harbour. Outside the entrance of the fort the remains of the walls of the place are very distinct; built of immense squared stones, similar in quality to some of the neighbouring rocks, they may be traced running in straight lines along the beach, and forming angles according to the shape of the promontory which they surround. At each of these angles are the foundations of what perhaps might have been, from their strong, square shape, towers, either of defence or observation.

Following the beach round from the Piræus to the southward for about a mile or more, what is called the Tomb of Themistocles is seen, and of which I have formerly taken some notice.* It is situated outside one of the angles of the remaining walls, and close down to the water-mark. It consists

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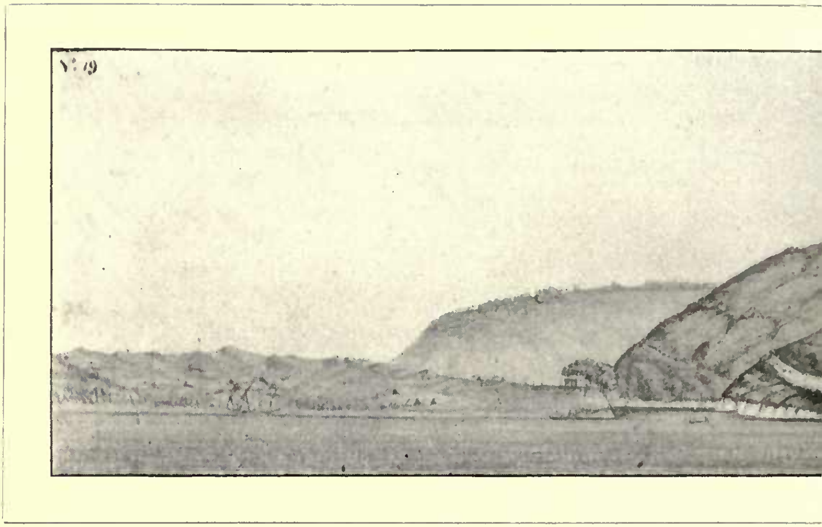
* 'Far on the solitary shore he sleeps.'—*Byron.*



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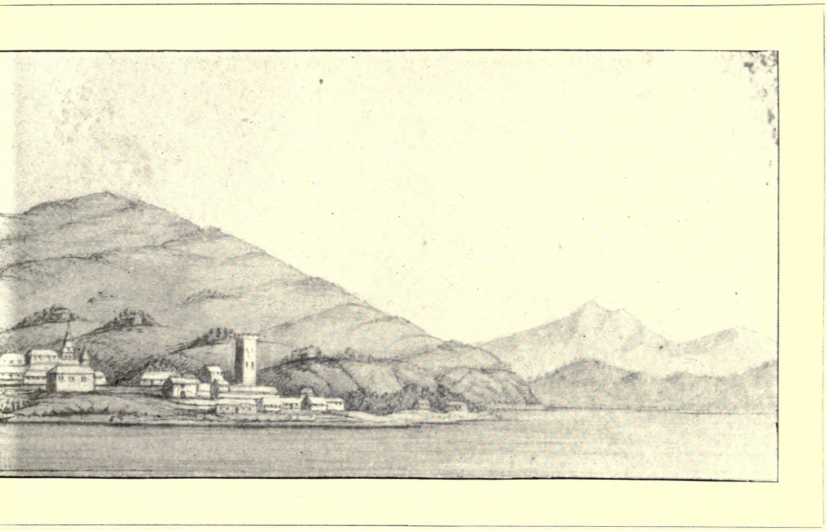
ATHENS—PIRÆU



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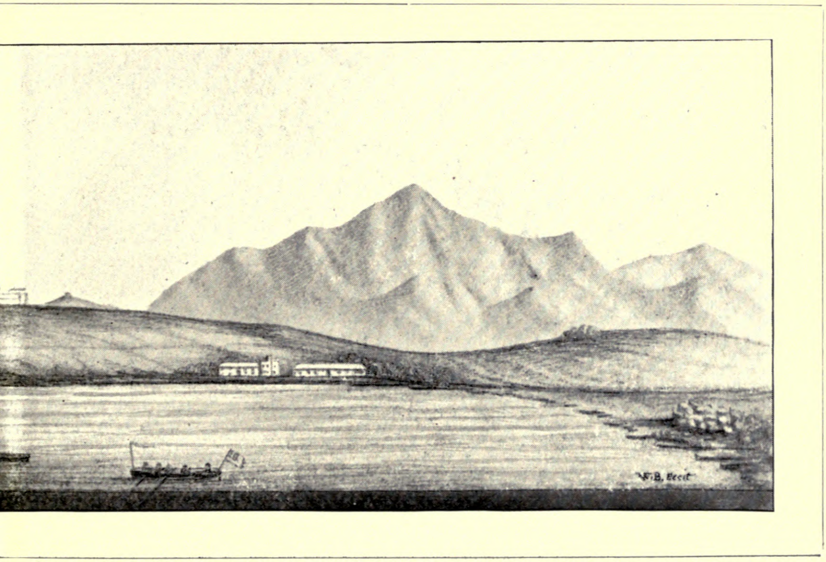

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of a double stone coffin, both apparently cut out of the rock, which may be concluded from the similarity of material in both, as well as from the inner having so long withstood the wind and the waves. One end and part of the sides of the inner coffin are wanting, but at the other parts its edge is on a level with the rock out of which the outer is excavated; and its cavity, which is about 18 inches deep, is filled with water, and gives fine ingress and exit to every wave that the disturbed Ægean may roll over it.

Near to this venerated spot is the overturned remains of what anciently formed a very large column of the same kind of stone, of which the neighbouring walls are built. Of this the base piece only is *in situ;* the other pieces are overturned, and are lying in a rude line looking inwards, and consist of nine or ten pieces of about 5½ feet in diameter. Whether this is of ancient or posterior architecture I cannot venture to decide; however, I should think it is ancient, and that probably it might have been intended as a landmark to approaching vessels, and to point out where the heroic ashes of a Themistocles were deposited.

Having again been to Athens, I cannot but commit to paper what interested me, whether for the purpose of again reading over my notes at some future period, or for the moment running again more coolly over the scene. In the Acropolis I spent about two hours, and was particularly pleased with the sight of the interior of the Temple of Neptune

Erectheus, which I had not hitherto seen. The under part of this is occupied at present by the Greeks as a store or magazine. It was with some difficulty that I got into the building, and that was from part of the ruined wall of the Temple of Minerva Poliades, by means of a plank laid across from the ruined wall into a breach in the temple. This aperture led into the top of the temple and over the magazine, which was separated from us by a rough floor, on which we landed. Here, quite close to the ancient roof, which was flat, and the capitals of the different columns, I had an opportunity of inspecting the sculpture very minutely. From not being exposed to the wind and weather, this was in many places as perfect as the day it was finished.

The roof was beautifully ornamented with highly-finished sculpture on panelling, separated by immense beams of the richest marble. The pillars of the Erectheum, a good many of which are still standing, but amalgamated amongst the rude enclosure of the magazine, are of the Ionic order, with pedestals and voluted capitals of the most beautiful work that can possibly be imagined. Such has been the excellence of the marble, that on the cornice and capitals it is not only wrought to the finest edges in some of the ornamental figures, but even into the imitation of delicately plaited wreaths of hair. To add to its splendour, the different meshes and interstices of the same have been filled up with differently coloured glass, all of which must have had an extremely rich effect while the place was, as it must have been, illuminated by light.

The mosque, which is built in the centre of the Parthenon, was open yesterday; and we found people busied in turning over and measuring the wheat with which it was partly filled. The Turkish prisoners are still employed about the place, and since April they have cleared away a great proportion of the rubbish I formerly noticed, and are still continuing to improve the interior of the place. In the common gaol, now occupying the place of the Temple of Fame, was one prisoner in irons, a Greek, for debt. The Turks, though going about, were all ironed, and, casting piteous looks at us, begged a few *paras* for charity.

But to return to the Temple of Poliades. The remaining figures supporting the portico on the south side, or what are called the Caryatides, are of the most beautiful expression; and, considering the length of time they have been exposed to the air and accidents, are astonishingly perfect. The cast which was sent out of England of the one which had been removed, is replaced by a square pillar of rude masonry, since the impostor never got so high as the Acropolis. It certainly resembled the originals in colour, but, notwithstanding the age of the prototype, the difference was easily perceptible in the superficies and material of the sculpture, and it would have made but a sorry figure as the representative of the absentee, for which the Greeks say, 'the other Caryatides actually wept.' The hair in these beautiful figures is plaited and flowing down the back in one or two braids, much resembling the single one, in which the present Greek women wear their hair in many places. I looked for the two lines,* mentioned, I think, in some of Byron's notes to his poetry, but I could not find them. They might, perhaps, have been purposely rubbed out. There are, however, an indescribable number of names scratched upon the interior of the portico, of all dates and from all countries, which, to those well versed in the literature of their relative countries, must be extremely amusing. On the columns of the Parthenon, they also form a complete historic and chronological record; and among the most lofty are seen the names of the most celebrated antiquaries. It is astonishing, on looking over the temple, to see at what trouble and expense Lord Elgin has been in removing the figures from the fronton, and particularly from the metopes situated between the triglyphs of the cornice; for the different vacancies are all filled up by long squared pieces of marble, unpolished, but so filling up the spaces of the metopes (now in the British Museum) that in the distance the defect of the sculpture is scarcely observable.

The Temple of Theseus, which I also again visited, presented a strange scene, and one that strongly testified to the troubles of Greece and the feverish state of its affairs. All the different pavements under its beautiful porticos were covered with melancholy groups of poor people and their little ragged children; who, belonging to the Negropont, or neighbouring part of the country, had been forced to quit their homes before the advance of the Turkish troops; and here, without any other roof to cover them, had taken shelter to mourn over their miseries, or to cherish life while they could. They were, in their haggard looks, their clothing, and in every respect, a complete picture of misery and distress. Some were asleep on the ground, others cooking their scanty morsel of corn, or attending to the cries of their hungry little ones, that often reminded them of their woes; while others, blind from age or disease, sat with hands clasped over their knees, or crept after the shade of the pillar as the sun's light encircled it.

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* Quid non Gothi,
Facerunt Scoti.

After waiting some little time, witnesses of this pitiful scene, through means of a soldier admittance was obtained. The interior was put in some little repair compared to what it had been in April last. All the rubbish had been cleaned away, and the chapel end of it was again graced with the white altar and lamps, showing that Church Service had again been renewed. The faces of all the stucco paintings still were unrepaired, and bore the marks of the late ravages; and one niche behind the altar was still a depository for powder, cartridges, and shot for the gun, with which a contiguous tower on the wall is manned. The opposite end of the temple, and where the tombstones of our countrymen formerly noticed are placed, is made use of as a storeroom for the unfortunate exiles, who had taken shelter outside, and on entering the place we were immediately followed by several women, who each set about opening their respective scanty sacks of meal, and taking a proportion of it away. As I observed on the Parthenon, the walls of this handsome temple are covered with names, which, from their great number and obtrusive manner in which they are (without the least regard to the surface they have been so carefully scratched on) thrust before one's eyes, are not apt, I think, to meet the asked-for approval or pleased gaze of the traveller.

CHAPTER XXIII

Mycone—Paros Island—Delos Island—Archipelago.

CYCLADES ISLANDS. AT SEA, BETWEEN MYCONE AND PAROS, 30*th October* 1824.—The small island of Delos, though once the attractive centre of the Cyclades, is in its present deserted garb the most repulsive among them. Rocky and without inhabitants, it is now nothing but the abode of solitude and sterility, presenting not one natural advantage that can give it a claim anywise proportionate to any of the other islands. It will, however, be a spot of much classical curiosity, so long as human history has a claim to our consideration, from the numerous traces it still bears of the false but alluring career which the mind for a long time pursued. I was not on shore, but the ship being close off it for a long time afforded me every idea of its extent and surface that anyone but an antiquary could wish for.

Interspersed among the stony face of the plain, various fragments of ruins could be traced with the naked eye, all of which were characteristic of the architectural grandeur and expense which had been lavished on the native deity. The marble, of which many of the buildings have been constructed, is of the finest Parian, and most beautiful in its kind; though fragments of granite were strewed over the place, a rock which is most abundant, and forms the nucleus of the island. Cynthus, situated towards the east end, is of such a size as strictly to come under the denomination of mount, and conveys much of its little greatness to the stranger who aims at recognising it in the distance. If Diana practised the chase on such a hill, she must certainly have exercised the immunity of her goddess-ship over the roughness of the path, since the ruggedness of the surface would require more than the bravery of an English sportsman on our wildest heaths.

The greatest length of this island, which lies, I think, north and south, between Mycone and Rhenéa, now anti-Delos, is about two miles. From the latter it is separated by a very narrow channel of rather deep water, and it was in this channel where the different parties of youth from Athens and the Cyclades first arrived during the festival, and from which, before the splendid prows of their gallies touched the beach, they had all their zeal, novelty, and happy feeling excited by a grand view of the sacred fane and all its pompous architecture.*

Setting aside the bonds of custom and superstition, it is easy to conceive how the ancients got so rivetted to their mythology, from such fascinating scenes as this island once afforded them. As their devotional energies in all religious services appeared to be expended through channels that cherished the weaknesses and earthly appetites of mankind, so every consolatory gratification they felt in that interchange of pleasure and happiness which this centre of association afforded them, must have been erroneously attributed to their deities. Man, naturally fond of social life, here found plentiful scope to expand his soaring sentiments. Youth revelled in the display and mutual admiration of their juvenile charms; while to riper years filling the eminent steps of society, the state and ritual of a festival afforded all that importance which comported so well with their age; and whether upheld by the vanity of performance, or the gratification from being the cause of the effects, had all their pleasurable feelings excited and kept up.

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* Temples of Apollo and Diana.

What could have pleased more the eye of man, or banished sadness from hearts physically pregnant with susceptible feelings, than the Delian Festival, as the ancients have described it to us? With the greatest nicety they must have aimed at having everything in harmony with their solar divinity. As the sun is the grand physical source of heat and life, so banished from Delos were both the pregnant and the moribund, and none were natives of its soil but the twin offspring of the persecuted Latona. Exposed as this little isle is to the constant sunshine by day, and canopied by such a resplendent and beautiful sky, it might be conjectured that from this reason chiefly, it might have been pitched on by the imaginative founders of mythology, as a place the best adapted (emblematic as it is) for the undisputed cradle and empire of Apollo. I one day went to Mycone, the neighbouring isle, and found it exactly what is described by the young Anacharsis * and the modern travellers; so rocky, sunburnt, and sterile is its appearance that from the anchorage the eye scarcely finds a spot of verdure to rest upon; and though productive enough of figs or grapes, it must have cost no little trouble to form the little galleries of soil on which they and the cotton are grown. The predominant rock is granite, and to the exclusion of all other looser stones, and soil is seen with its hoary face, constituting the varied bulk of the outline in every direction. This granite contains a great proportion of Mica, which is lying loose, and has a beautiful appearance in the sun.

Soon after landing, I ascended one of the highest points of the island; and as this is adjoining to Delos, I shall now note the circle of Cyclades that may be seen from it, and of which Delos is the centre. To the northward, the expanse of sea is open, sweeping, however, the circle from that all around you. The following came successively under view:—Tinos, Syra, Serpho, Siphno,

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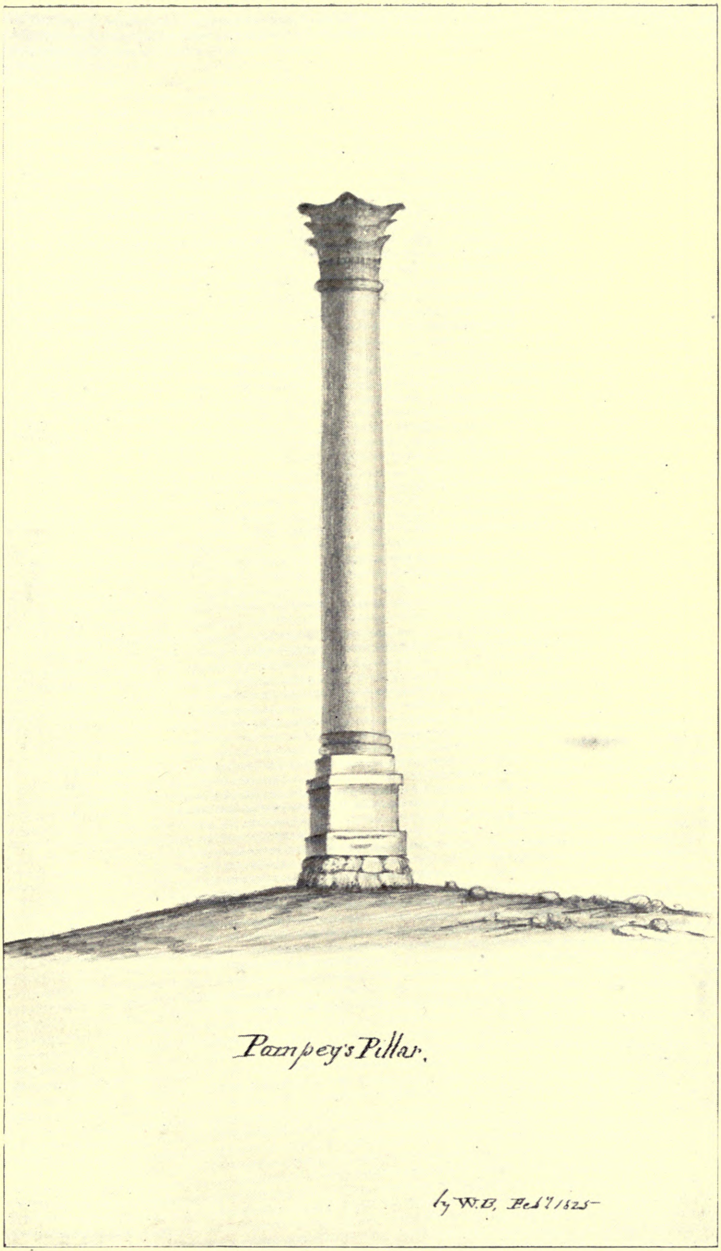
* See Anacharsis, Vol. VI.

Antiparos, Paros, Naxia, and Thera, far to the westward. The port affords a tolerably safe anchorage during north winds. The town, which on account of its white-washed houses, churches, and windmills, makes a great show in the distance, is but small, though considered rather a central market among the islands, and is next to Syra. As in Paros, Milo, and the other isles, great quantities of cotton are wrought up with the knitting wires into stockings, etc., and from the numbers brought up to this work, the labour is of so little value that they will offer eight or nine pairs of socks for the Spanish dollar. Knitting seemed the grand occupation of the women, who appear remarkably quiet and industrious. In looks the young far exceeded any others of the Greeks, and in complexion, with less of the brunette, they came nearer to the English. The proportion of aged people moving about was very great, and, with the females and children, composed the greater mass to be seen. The costume of the aged is very singular, and I have made a sketch of it.

CHAPTER XXIV

Pompey's Pillar—Cleopatra's Needle—Egypt.

Alexandria, Egypt, H.M.S. *Chanticleer*, 5*th March* 1825.—It was with cold, unsettled weather we approached the coast of Egypt, and the wind, which was northerly, followed us up with such a wintry temperature, that we could scarcely fancy ourselves near to a country the climate and sky of which are generally depicted of a nature, from which one would be naturally led to associate it with little of the cloudy and sombre aspect of more northerly latitudes. The weather was coarse, the sky cloudy and dark, while all the vigilance and care of the navigator were requisite to enter the port with safety. There, also, the appearance of everything corresponded: the ships were seen riding cheerless at their anchors, and only enlivened a little by the motion which the swell of the sea communicated to them; while the pilots that boarded us were clothed in their capotes and winter costume; and of a piece with the rest of the prospect, the nearest shore was so barren and bare that at no time could it form any relief, either to the burning glow of the



POMPEY'S PILLAR. *To face page 202.*

summer sun, or to the repulsive gloom of their transitory winter.

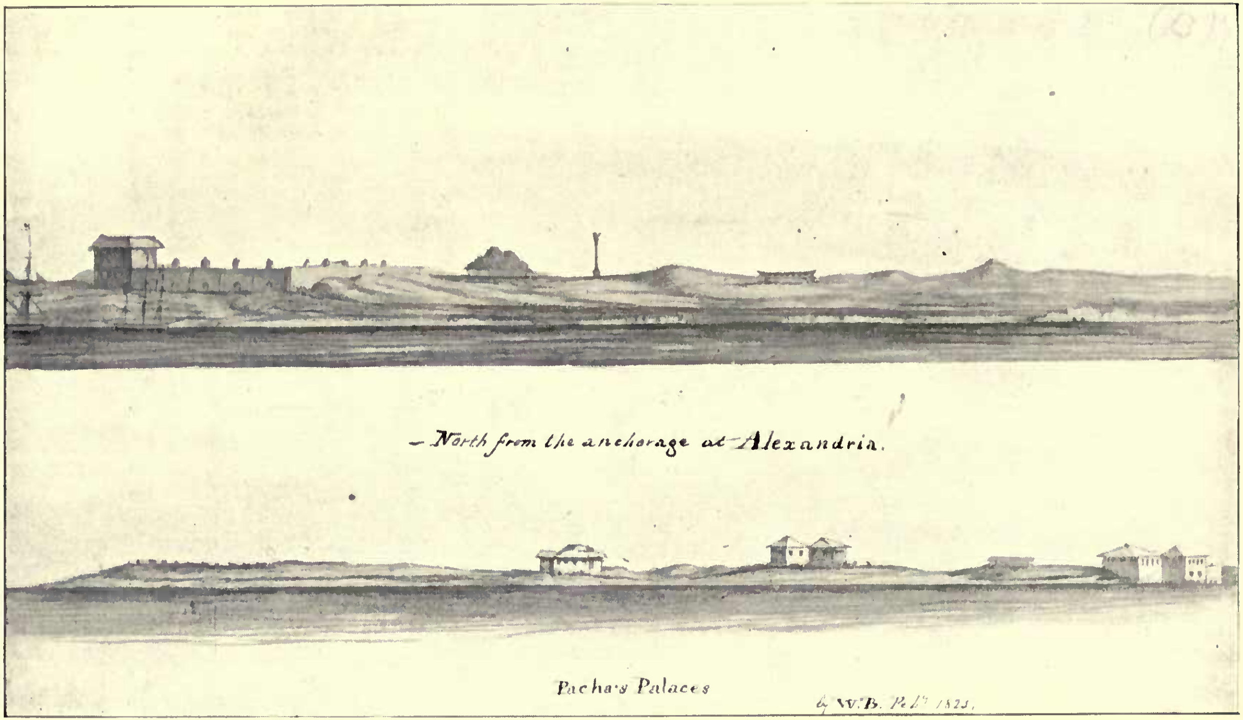
The impressions made by a prospect depend much on the state of its atmosphere, which reflects all its varied features. Nowhere, however, have I seen landscape so ostensibly show this relationship as it did the evening of our arrival. While the ship was lying to in the offing, the sun suddenly broke out for about an hour, and as suddenly the shore about four miles distant changed its appearance, and instead of the obscure line of low coast as hitherto seen by us, it was immediately illumined into all the characteristic glow of its sandy superficies; and what between the dark cloudy sky behind it, and the consequently sombre shade of the wave in its foreground, the shore was so distinctly thrown forth in the prospect, that it truly looked as the verge of the boundless and barren plains to which it belonged.

At the distance I have mentioned, much is left to the fancy of the approaching stranger; for although the line of city buildings, a confused mass of shipping, and a considerable extent of coast are seen, still everything is wanting like that imposing, bold, or picturesque appearance, which generally characterises the northern shores of the Mediterranean. To the eastward, however, may be distinguished the tower of Pharilla, the ancient Pharos, and one or two little eminences or hills; while elevated far above every other object, Pompey's

Pillar is seen at a great distance, attracting with its magnificence the eyes of every approaching stranger.

The old port of Alexandria is rather of difficult entrance, and at first sight appears more like a roadstead than a harbour; for the distance between land and land seems very extensive. The port is, however, formed by ridges of reefs and sunken rocks which, particularly on the east side, run out from the beach and leave two rather narrow entrances. The port thus formed is on a most magnificent scale, and perfectly adapted for the reception of fleets, such as the resources of Egypt have been or yet may be able to employ. On entering the port a person is particularly led to remark the great number of ships now lying at an anchor; there are now not less than 200 of various countries, and they fail not to bring to mind the granaries of Egypt, and the abundance which the Nile annually bears on its bosom. From the outer anchorage the city is principally hid by the crowded lines of masts and shipping which intervene. To the northward, however, where a point of land sweeps round, forming that side of the harbour, its outskirts are seen; and farther out the palaces of the Pasha and his son, with some strong lines of fortification which command the anchorage under them.

As seen from the offing, Pompey's Pillar from the outer anchorage is also the most striking object all around, and to the westward of the town and outer forts occupies a little eminence about a mile


— North from the anchorage at Alexandria.
Pacha's Palaces
by W.B. Pel[illegible] 1825.

ANCHORAGE AT ALEXANDRIA AND PASHA'S PALACES.

To face page 204.

in the rear of the southern beach. It is on this beach where the common landing-place is, and near which stands an extensive magazine or store filled with cotton, grain, and merchandise, all of which are shipped at this place from a large wharf, there thrown out from the shore, and a busier scene can hardly be imagined than what goes on there every day. Ranged along the wharf were numerous lumps and boats receiving the produce of the country, or pulling out and in with their cargoes; while all between the store above mentioned and the wharf was crowded with Arabs transporting the different materials either on their own heads or camels' backs to the boats.

Notwithstanding the land thus overflowing with the abundance of its own produce and fertility, I could not but reflect how very little the very numerous population testified its wealth. Though raw-boned, and many of them muscular and sinewy, and from their swarthy complexion, their rags and nakedness, as well as from the oppressed-looking cast of their features, their appearance altogether was more abject than that of the African in his state of bondage. They appeared very active and orderly at their work, and without anyone apparently urging them on. They are even well fitted for fatigue. The aged all wear their beards, many of whom had defects of vision, such as cataract, nebula, and what is called staphyloma.* The women, young and old, like the

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* The result of prevailing ophthalmia.

Turkish women, keep their faces covered when abroad ; this remark equally applies to the rich as to the poor, and even the most wretched amongst the latter strictly adhere to the observance of this Mohammedan fashion.

Having witnessed the busy scene taken notice of for a few minutes, I left the beach for the pillar, after mounting an ass and getting rid of a whole host of ragged Arabs and Moors who kept pressing their cattle upon one. I found the animal remarkably sure-footed and easy to ride, which is not often the case, while the hire was not twopence a mile.

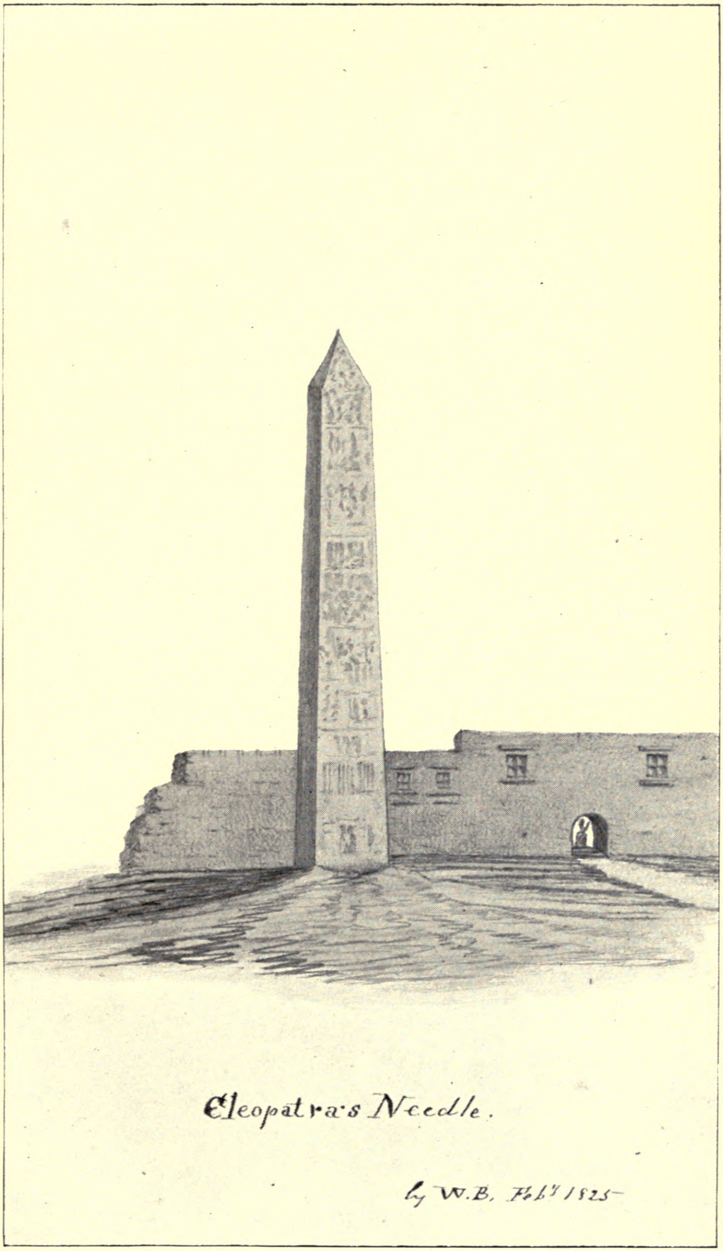
After leaving, on our right, the canal which communicates with the Nile from this place, we had a ride about a mile farther on. The road was good, and on approaching this wonder of the world, we struck in through the intervening ground where there is not a single enclosure ; the soil is sandy, and though at this season partly clothed with a few diminutive wild-flowers and marine plants, must be perfectly naked in summer. Where this piece of antiquity stands, the ground swells up into a long ridge running east and west, which, with the exception of two little hills, is one of the most elevated points of land round Alexandria.

The pillar is a most magnificent relict of the ancients, and one can scarcely conceive how a single stone of such a colossal size as the shaft, could ever be elevated as it is ; for, besides having been effected by some combination of mechanical powers unknown to us, so must it have required an immense amount of physical force; as previous to its erection it must have been transported up the height it now stands on from some distance. It is 93 feet high, and its pedestal measures from a rough calculation better than 13 feet square. It consists of three pieces, the capital, shaft, and pedestal; all of which are of the hard red or Egyptian granite, which is of such a durable nature that at this day the shaft has such a smooth polish that is actually reflects the light of the sun down its whole length. The capital is Corinthian, the shaft perfectly plain, and the pedestal without inscriptions; while the whole is supported on stonework, about 3 feet in height, and, being of softer material, is worn away in several places from under the pedestal, so that a considerable portion of the under surface may be seen.

The site of this monument has a very commanding view both of the mass of the city, the old harbour, and Lake Mareotis; but particularly of the latter, which may be observed spreading out its smooth and broad surface far to the S.W., so that its furthermost shores can scarcely be distinguished, and look like little islets floating in the obscurity of the distant horizon. The country which encircles the walls of the city is very low, and only a few of the nearer objects can be discerned, chiefly consisting of mosques and country residences, pleasingly intermixed with the green and widely-spreading tops of the date trees.

Leaving this stupendous structure with my companions, I went to visit perhaps the no less admirable pieces of antiquity, called the Needles of Cleopatra, which stand about a mile and a half further to the eastward, and in the vicinity of the new port. The path we took, being across part of the site of the old city, led through a variety of ruined buildings, both ancient and modern, and deserted and excavated grounds where not a house was to be seen, and where the scene of desolation was only relieved by the tent of some Arab family, who, in all their squalid rags, were crouching around it.

In several places the remains of some fine ancient buildings were partially exposed, among which were several fine granite columns, some overturned, others still in their original situation. It is astonishing to see in the recent excavations to what a great depth the earth and rubbish have accumulated over the ancient buildings. The superincumbent soil is of the richest kind, being of a dark fine loam; and though interspersed with great quantities of bricks, terra-cotta, and marble debris, might with little trouble be levelled into the finest garden ground. With the exception of the ornamental parts, the body of these ancient buildings is all of a dark coloured brick, between which the cement or plaster is almost of equal thickness. Some of the vaults are occupied by poor Arabs, and at the mouth of these subterraneous



CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE. *To face page 208.*

caves, I saw several of them squatted down, making a meal of rusks and watercresses.

Of the two needles, one is standing, while the other, which appears to be of the same size, is laid low; but from the accumulated earth which has been cleared away from the latter, it seems to occupy a trench below the level of the adjoining ground. Its pedestal is still *in situ*, and also appears sunk from the same cause, while nothing of the pedestal of the other is at all seen, the soil reaching up to the base of the shaft. The figure of these needles are obelisks terminating in acute pyramids. They are of hard red granite, and in two pieces, the pedestal and shaft. By measurement the length of the fallen one is 68 feet; breadth at top, 3 feet, 6 inches; base, 5 feet, 10 inches; while the square of the pedestal is about 7 feet. They are covered with symbolical figures from top to bottom on every side, and so little have the original polish and sculpture suffered from the weather and time, that not only the hieroglyphics but the different edges of the obelisk are entire, and, except at one corner, those of the one erect are perfectly defined and sharp.

Although not situated so advantageously as Pompey's Pillar, being on lower ground and in the rear of a fort and high wall, still the standing one, from its height and being all of one piece, had such a colossal air about it as to lose nothing of its grandeur when contrasted with the objects near it, while its appearance would be magnified if placed on some extensive plain, or the summit of some commanding height, such as that on which the other stands. It overlooks, however, the whole city and new harbour, while it, no doubt, is found from its great elevation a useful landmark to ships in the offing.

While we remained, the port was quite a busy scene after the weather settled, and daily numerous vessels were entering or leaving it, loaded deeply with the grain or cotton of the country. All the exports I understand are transacted through the Pasha himself, and considering the cheap rate at which he gets labour done, he must be amassing a great sum of money. Every article of food is cheap in consequence of the great fertility and productiveness of the soil. Notwithstanding which, and probably by reason of such extensive exports, the poor Copts and Arabs often find much difficulty in procuring bread. Alongside the ship they sold 200 eggs for 4s 6d, and in the market four geese for the same money, and other poultry in proportion, which is thought high. There was a squadron of men-of-war in the port ready to resume operations against the Greeks in some quarter or other. The young Pasha Ibrahim is at Candia, and lately they have lost one of their best captains, who was named Gibraltar.

This place appears to be very healthy at present, and I have only heard of two cases of plague in the town which are reported to be *not* malignant. When the plague happens here, it is not considered of more consequence than a fever in England, and in conversing with an English traveller recently from Grand Cairo, I have been informed that a medical gentleman, who has for many years practised there, always treats it as he would a typhus, while every one considers himself secure so long as nothing like actual contact takes place. When the plague prevails they shut themselves up in their houses, and when out of doors avoid touching people in the street.

To-day our vessel leaves Alexandria, and though I could have enjoyed a longer stay, I felt much gratified in seeing the little I have done of the place. In the ancient monuments before noticed, beautiful specimens were afforded me of the gigantic works and labours of the ancient inhabitants of Egypt, while in the grandeur of the port, the number of shipping and superfluity of produce, employing such multitudes of busy people, the resources and richness of the Nile were strongly expressed. Little knowledge of human nature is requisite to imagine how severely the children of Israel must have felt the difference in the desert, and no wonder they longed for the flesh pots and corn of the land they had left, or that in history the land has been styled the granary of the world.

CHAPTER XXV

Evacuation of Navarino—Greek Prisoners—Ibrahim Pasha.

BAY OF NAVARIN, *24th May* 1825.—On approaching the coast of Navarin, the first object that proclaimed our vicinity to the scene of the late contest was a squadron of thirteen Egyptian men-of-war observed cruising off this point of the Morea.* We soon passed through this squadron in the offing, and entered the bay about sunset, where we found not less than forty-nine more vessels lying at anchor. The red flag was seen flying on numerous eminences, and on batteries which had been thrown up round the town. Extensive camps whitened the hills towards the interior, and Navarin was completely invested by the forces under Ibrahim Pasha. All hostilities had, however, ceased; as the Greeks, a few days previous to our arrival, had capitulated, and were waiting the arrival of vessels to convey them to Calamata, which the Pasha had, on his side, agreed to do at his own expense. Until their stipulated embarkation, the Greeks were allowed to

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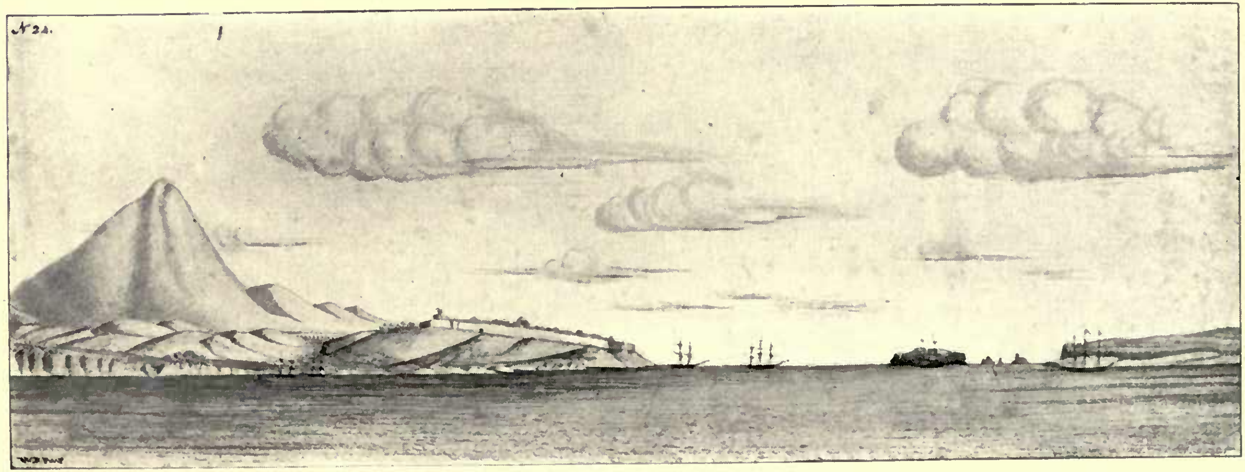
* Capitulation of Navarino to Egyptian Fleet, May 10th and 23rd, 1825.



BRITISH FLEET, NAVARINO.

(Battle, 20th October 1827.)

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keep their own flag flying on the citadel and battlements of the place, while their late besiegers kept their positions around.

The bay, or rather the harbour, of Navarin is one of the best and most extensive in the Morea, and is celebrated in the page of classical history, especially as being the scene of a most gallant combat between the fleets of the Lacedemonians and Athenians, the last of whom commemorated their conquest by the erection of a statue to Victory at Pylos, which stood on the mainland at the lesser or northern entrance of the harbour. In ages prior to this event, the famed Nestor is said to have held here the seat of his government, and dispensed wisdom and justice from the foot of the Ægalean Hill. In the distant bosom of this capacious harbour lies the Island of Sphacteria, affording at each end an entrance between it and the mainland, on the southern arm of which is situated the town of the present or new Navarin. The town is but an inconsiderable place, and may contain about 4000 inhabitants. It is, like many other Turkish towns, surrounded with a wall about 20 feet high, without a fosse, and flanked by several round towers, having embrasures and loop-holes for musketry. Though occupying the rising ground forming the south side of the entrance into the harbour, yet being overlooked by the hills and heights in the rear, among which the cone-headed Temasthia is the most conspicuous, and confronted by lofty rocks and islets on the northern side of the entrance, the town can never be considered a very tenable place, without the protection of a fleet. Thus protected, however, and with some batteries built on the north side of the entrance, it would command one of the finest ports in the world, being several miles in circumference, and having a most extensive anchorage. The scala, or landing-place, is a good way up the harbour, and about 200 yards from the walls of the town; and from it the embarkation of the Greek prisoners took place, on the day after our arrival. Being desirous to witness the evacuation of the place, our party were on the ground early in the forenoon.

The gate of the town, opposite to the scala, had been opened some time previous to our landing, and about half way between a breaching battery and the walls, a body of Greeks were seen all huddled together, and waiting, under the muzzles of some hundreds of Arab musketry, the arrival of the Pasha from his pavilion, for to superintend their embarkation. In a short time a great bustle and noise took place among the crowds of Arabs, who had collected from the different camps, to see the poor captives leaving the walls which they had so long and so ably defended; and from the direction to which every eye was turned, the cause of all the commotion was soon made manifest. Ibrahim Pasha and his suite were making their appearance on the top of the hill in the rear of the town. He was mounted on a beautiful Arabian, and from the splendour of the animal's trappings, and the distance at which the rest of the retinue followed him, the Pasha was easily distinguished among the other turbaned sequestrians. On his arriving at the foot of the hill, and among the crowds covering the beach, he could, moreover, not be mistaken, for every soldier quickly got out of his way, and left the ground clear before him; and some, who were not alert enough in doing so, very soon felt his displeasure, for he seized large stones from the ruined walls beside him, and, with his own hands, threw them at their unlucky heads, a strange mode, I thought, for a prince to correct either his subjects or his soldiery.

His dress was a loose green jacket, embroidered with silver; an undervest of the same colour, fitting close to his chest; black petticoat trousers, with a coloured silk scarf round his middle; green silk embroidered buskins; white stockings and red morocco slippers. He wore a lofty white and green turban, and his moustache and beard were strong and dark. His only arms was a handsome though plain sabre suspended by a silk cord over his right shoulder. He is about 5 feet 6 inches in height, very stout, of a complexion inclining to fair, marked with the small-pox, and apparently about thirty-two years of age.

On his arrival at the beach he dismounted, and the embarkation of the Greeks instantly commenced; each one, on passing the Pasha, and the double line of armed soldiery, having his person examined by some of the Turkish officers. As there were upwards of 1000 of these unfortunate exiles, it took up a considerable time to inspect them all. The Greek officers alone were allowed to carry off their arms and military accoutrements; and they, to the number of twenty-five, followed in the rear of their countrymen. The officers were mostly all young men, and of active appearance; they wore the Albanian costume; and, notwithstanding they were placed in such humiliating circumstances, they did not appear to have lost the firm step and graceful carriage of person, for which the Greek mountaineer is so much distinguished. They walked with an independent gait and undisturbed features through the long line of gazing soldiers, to the boats; nor did they cast one lingering look on the walls they had so ably defended, and which disunion alone among their compatriots had compelled them, from want of supplies, to relinquish.

What gave a colouring of distress and melancholy to the scene, was the care and tenderness which the exiles seemed to pay to their sick, wounded, and dying; some of whom were carried along on biers, and who seemed to be soon destined for another world. Others were carried on the backs of their friends, or in their fellow-soldiers' arms; whilst it was also pitiable to see the way in which six poor females, who had apparently only waited the result of the siege, were burdened with bedding and other household furniture; and even two little children were seen conveying all that they could of the remnants of their penates, and following the fate of their unfortunate mothers. Amid the hurry and bustle of such a scene, devotion for their religion was not forgotten. Several, with a priest at their head, were charged with the few valuable ornaments which their church possessed, such as the lamps, candlesticks, etc., and one young man seemed to claim no other important charge but that of a turtle dove, which he had in a cage—a fit emblem of the condition of its owner's country. The greater part of the Greeks, though looking fatigued, were young, and had not apparently suffered much from the siege; some of the few aged who were among them, recognised us, as Franks, amidst the crowd of turbans and swarthy Arabs; and, bowing as they passed us, put their hands to their hearts, but ventured not to speak with us, as a line of soldiers was on each side of them.

All this proceeding was conducted with great order, and not an insult was offered to any of the prisoners; not, perhaps, from want of inclination, if we might conclude from the nature of the war between the parties. Any act of this kind would, no doubt, have called forth the fatal stretch of the Pasha's displeasure, since he took, several times, large stones, and struck the soldiers nearest to him, whose offence appeared to be only the assembling quietly for to see those with whom they lately had been fighting. His men appeared to be well accustomed to such summary treatment, and, without saying a word, tried to run, as fast as possible, out of His Highness' way. Every one of his movements and change of features appeared to be watched; and, during the whole time, notwithstanding the beach was crowded with more than two thousand people, not a syllable was heard, and every one afterwards retired peaceably to their respective camps.

When all the Greeks had embarked, Ibrahim mounted his horse, and, followed by his ministers, generals, guards, etc., started for his nearest pavilion, which was about two musket shots distant from the beach, and pitched under the shade of some olive and other trees. On ascending the gently rising slope leading towards it, and just as the bay and town both opened to His Highness' view, the Ottoman flag was hoisted on the walls of Navarin, under a general salute from every man-of-war in the bay. No greater triumph could have been exhibited, if the numbers on either side had been reversed, and the Pasha had taken the place at the point of the sword; whereas, the conquest was under circumstances which added little to the coronal wreath of a soldier. Situated as these 1000 Greeks were, without any dependence or assistance from their divided countrymen, capitulation was a happy turn of fortune offered them; since, if they had held out and failed in getting relief, death from the edge of the scimitar must have been their

CAPITAN IBRAHIM PASHA,

ADMIRAL OF THE TURKISH FLEET.

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only portion on falling into the hands of their enemies.

Navarin being the first place on which the Egyptian flag had yet been hoisted, this salute was perhaps called for in the presence of such a host, as well through the hopes of intimidation as encouragement; though judging from the already roused spirit of the Greeks, such a triumph will not have rung in their ears without a different effect, and the guns which shook this day the mountains of Messenia, must only serve to awaken every patriot heart to fresh energies in the defence of his country.

Ibrahim Pasha, soon after the salute, entered his tent, which overlooked the bay; and, being there joined by his higher attendants, he sat down, and began to smoke in the centre of his retinue. His tent was spacious, and the floor covered with rich carpeting, which was again overlaid in the middle by another carpet of richer texture, on which His Highness himself sat after the manner of the East. On his right sat two of his ministers and the Tripolitan Admiral; while on his left were the English, Austrian, and other European officers, who had come to wait on him, and were all standing. His dragoman was an Armenian, aged, and spoke several languages fluently. Being in great spirits, no doubt from the scene he had just witnessed, the Pasha's features were then perhaps in their most happy mould, and he was extremely courteous—ordering seats, coffee, and pipes. When these last were handed to the strangers, he ceased himself to smoke, and he continued to do so, as long as his guests were using their pipes—an etiquette, that, I believe, he observes when smoking in the presence of strangers, which is an honour he seldom confers. On a nearer inspection, I may add, that his features are round, robust, and marked a good deal with the small-pox; his eye is very sharp and shrewd-looking, and, on speaking, his forehead gathers between his eyebrows — showing a considerable share of natural irritability. His demeanour was not marked with so much of that hauteur which might be expected from an Ottoman Prince, in the midst of an army of his vassal subjects.

There are some parts of the country around Navarin very fertile and beautiful, and where the Greeks had sown the seed it was pitiful to see the Turks ravaging the crops for their horses, and wantonly cutting down and destroying them. Between this place and Modon there are a number of uncultivated hills, all of which, however, from their green surfaces, might be cultivated with the vine, etc. In the rear of Modon the greater part of the Egyptians are in camps, which we saw in coasting the place, all pitched round the environs of the town, and making a most formidable show in the distance. The town of Modon is small; it is walled and defended towards the land by a dry ditch, and flanked to seaward by a small tower in which several guns are mounted. The harbour is small, the anchorage deep, but rather exposed to the S.W. In consequence of the late attack made by the Greeks on the Turkish fleet lying there, we found the whole bounds of the place strewed with wreck, the shore lined with broken timber, and several remains of vessels just appearing above water in the anchorage.

CHAPTER XXVI

Dalmatian and Illyrian Coasts—Lissa—Spalatro—Fiume.

At Sea in the Adriatic, Ionian Islands, *28th June* 1825.—For the last week our ship has been employed in a part of the Mediterranean station seldom visited by men-of-war, namely, on the Coast of Dalmatia and Istria, in advance of which is situated an archipelago of islands and islets, from eight to ten miles in length, to that of the smallest nodule on which herbage can be supposed ever to exist. Speaking generally of these islands, they may be said to have rather a peculiar appearance; inasmuch as compared with the Archipelago of Greece, they present little of the rough, rocky beach, or cliffy precipice, for which Delos, Milo, and several other of these islands are remarkable. As the Grecian Archipelago has been compared to a sea in which a mountainous country has been submerged to its loftiest summits; so may the islands of the Adriatic be likened to the summits of a gentle, hilly country, the elevated surfaces of which presented a rounded and unbroken outline.

From the great length and parallel situation of some of the islands, the continuous chain of hills may be traced with their inundated valleys between; and while resembling in their profile that of the land along the coast, they differ widely from that of the range of mountains in the background, which are extremely precipitous, rugged, and crested, far up among the clouds. Notwithstanding, these islands are placed far beneath the more elevated parts of the adjoining country, their coating of soil, particularly of those to the southwards, and of all the islets, is so remarkably thin and bare, that when viewed in the distance their lines of stratification may be traced right across or around them, according as their direction may be; while their general grey-striated colour has little to relieve it in the appearance of herbage or brushwood. In several places the little valleys are coloured with patches of cultivation, in which the vine was luxuriantly growing.

On the greater number of small islands, however, not a single enclosure nor hut was to be seen, the only proof of their being under the recognisance of some power or other, being the white crosses of wood, with which all their more elevated summits seemed to be crowned. On the larger islands there seemed to be a considerable population from the number of little towns seen here and there scattered along the eastern shore; and, as might be expected, the soil around them had lost its wild and barren aspect, and in the colour of its crops, enclosures, and diversified scenery, bespoke the attention and fostering care of industrious husbandry. In the course of our passage among them, several very picturesque views presented themselves, which, though tame and solitary from the miniature description of outline, were rather interesting, especially viewed in combination with the lovely-looking boats which enlivened the neighbouring waters.

The channel between some of the islands and *terra firma* was exceedingly narrow, and our progress through it more resembled that down the course of some river. Between the favourable breeze that swept us along, the pleasant stillness of the day, and the novelty which this sort of navigation presented to us, we felt much interest and pleasure, though, I must confess, the darkness of the nights, and chances of bad weather, somewhat disturbed my slumbers, and I often wished our little barque in the midst of the boundless Atlantic. All our cruise, however, ended well, and after several days' nice navigation, during which no small share both of the theoretical and practical skill of the navigator was developed, we finished our voyage through the Archipelago in perfect safety, and entered the beautiful Lake of Fiume with a favourable breeze from the N.E.

The first of the islands that we approached was Lissa, but where from the strength of the breeze the ship did not come to an anchor, but taking advantage of the south wind we run for Spalatro, one of the most southerly towns of Dalmatia. The coast has here some extensive islands in front of it, and the passage between two of them is extremely narrow. This town, from its spires and contiguous chain of rugged mountains in its rear, has rather a pretty appearance. The anchorage is good though exposed to the S.W. There is also a mole for smaller vessels close in. The town occupies the verge of a dry, rocky range of low land which runs along the coast, and which extends towards the northward, throwing the mountains farther in the background. Its houses are more after the English style than in the Ionian Islands and Greece. They have regular chimneys and tiled roofs, while the churches are all surmounted by spires, or square towers, after the Venetian manner of building. The country, though naked from a want of wood and trees, seemed well cultivated and productive; the greater proportion being covered with luxuriant crops of corn, either standing, or cut and stacked, as in England; and which was finely contrasted with the beautiful verdure of the vineyards, of which there seemed to be many all around the place.

Zara was the next anchorage we took advantage of, and which is about 60 miles farther up the coast. The channel towards this was through an immense number of little islets, and was very intricate; the depth of water being very little, and as low once as 4¾ fathoms, while between Pasman and the main, the breadth across in many places does not exceed half-a-mile. In the vicinity of Zara the islands look susceptible of cultivation, and the houses and villages are planted thicker; while the mainland is lower, more fertile, and the range of mountains so far retired that a chain of lower hills is seen, forming the outline and bespeaking a better description of country.

The town of Zara, which is two-thirds surrounded by water, is well walled, and affords an excellent anchorage to the N. and N.W. in deep water. Here, as at Spalatro, the imperial flag is flying, and the people in appearance, dress, and complexion, differ widely from those to the southward, being fair and fresh coloured like Englishmen.

Leaving Zara for the N.W., the channel between the islands becomes wider, though not less foul in some places; and when the winds are unfavourable, must keep the navigator on the alert, and particularly before opening the head of the gulf, which is called the Lake of Fiume, through which the islands lock in each other so much, and are so much of a colour, that an outlet can scarcely be seen in the whole circuit.

It was astonishing to see so few vessels; those we did meet were trabaculas, schooners, and English vessels; and the great novelty that a square-rigged vessel seemed to be on the coast, was proved by the curiosity which the people showed at the different ports we called at, where they assembled in crowds to look at the ship.

Fiume, situated at the north angle of the gulf, is a small town, but possessed of numerous advantages, both as to aspect, the beautiful supply of water from its river, and the fertility of the soil that covers its hills and vicinity. Wood abounds, and from the numerous houses thickly planted on the hilly coast, the country must be populous. Near Fiume there are no high mountains, but the surrounding country is hilly, and somewhat resembles the country round Genoa. While we were there the weather was fine, the country rich with the ripening crops, and the place was seen to the best advantage.

Hemmed in on all sides by *terra firma*, and the Islands of Veglia and Cherso, the Lake of Fiume, about ten or fourteen miles in diameter, is a beautiful sheet of water; but there is a want of relief in the scenery, for, with the exception of the town, and the white cottages disposed over the hills, together with the sea-bleached sails of the fishermen seen here and there gliding along shore, there is a degree of tameness which soon ceases to be regarded with much interest or admiration. After two days' anxious navigation, tame though it may be, this panorama was first hailed with some degree of satisfaction and pleasure. Leaving Fiume, our course was to the west and southward, and in running in this direction the different reaches the ship had to make, owing to a contrary wind, afforded us very near views of island and main. Both soon assumed a more cultivated appearance, while some way down the channel it was quite a lively scene, little flotillas of coasting sails being observed taking advantage of the fair breeze for the head of the gulf.

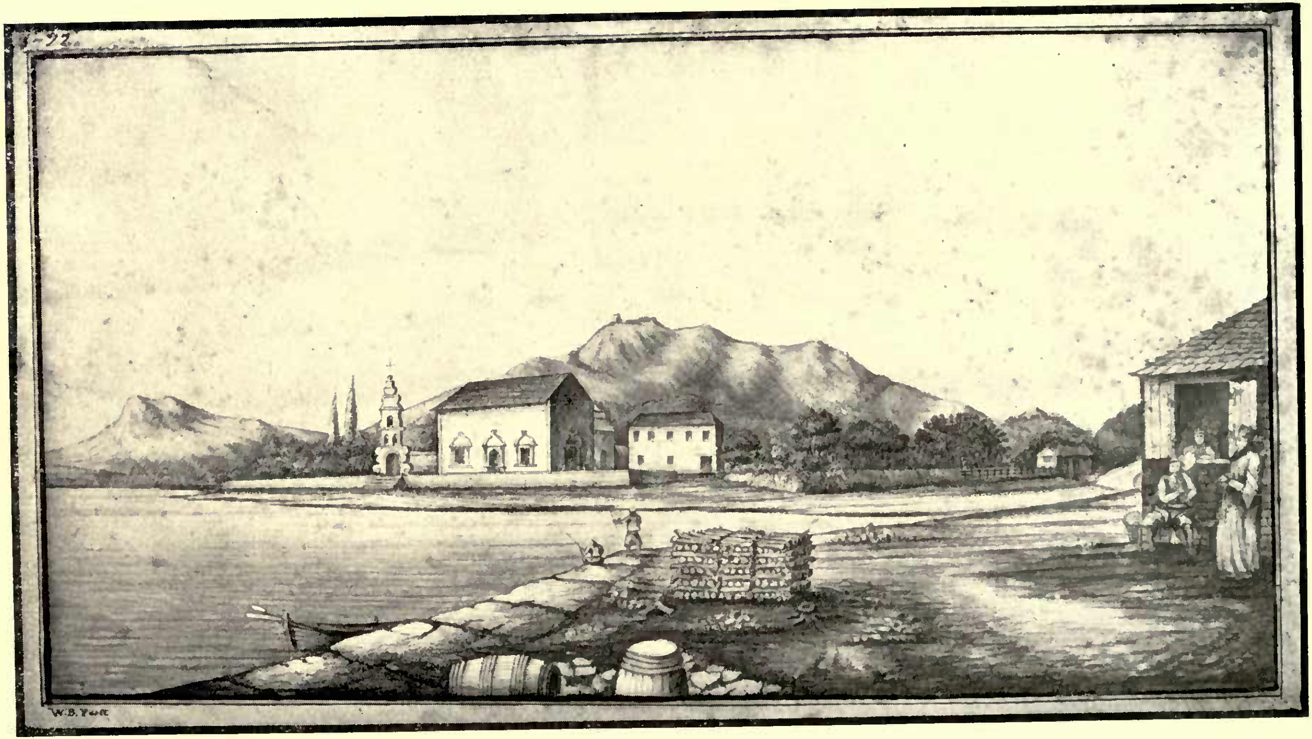
On running out of the Gulf of Fiume, the mainland changes in appearance considerably, and instead of the elevated and hilly country forming the background of Fiume, the coast gradually flattens away towards the most southern promontory of Istria; where the mountains, though still in view, are so far in the rear of the coast, that an immense extent of level intervenes. Without the expectations of seeing any object to attract our attention, either connected with the outline or scenery of this coast, I was much astonished on visiting deck yesterday, in order to breathe the cool air after dinner, to find we were in the vicinity of some of the most magnificent piles of ruin I have yet had an opportunity of seeing either in Greece or Italy. We were off Pola, a small town of Istria, possessing a good anchorage and forts. The shore was about five miles distant, and the whiteness of the ruins as they reflected the afternoon's sun, soon attracted the attention of every person on board. On looking at them through the glass, they appeared to be the remains of a stupendous amphitheatre, resembling the Coliseum at Rome, and with the exception of a breach in its side facing the sea, was tolerably perfect, and certainly deserving of being more particularly noticed and described than it generally is in books which professedly treat upon this country. I regretted our not anchoring in Pola, and having an opportunity of examining such a fine and ancient pile of Roman building, as well as some others in its vicinity; but was obliged to content myself with what I had seen of it, which was certainly a fine view of the coast.

The country is very little elevated all around it and along the coast; and it is astonishing that, exposed as it is, it has not suffered more from time and the weather, since it now, in the distance at first sight, appears like a modern building. Leaving the coast with a fine breeze and good weather, we stood down the gulf, and soon left Istria sinking in the horizon behind us.

CHAPTER XXVII

Ithaca—Siege of Missolonghi—Greek and Turkish Fleets—Naval Action.

IONIAN ISLANDS, ZANTE, *6th August* 1825.—It had been a very hot morning on the 1st inst., and H.M.S. *Chanticleer* was becalmed off the harbour of Ithaca, when every one was anxiously looking out for a breeze to carry us down to the two hostile squadrons, which we understood were, the previous day, about to commence operations off the Gulf of Patras. We had seen them since daylight, but so far were they to the southward of us, and the effects of the refraction so great during the calm, that it was impossible to distinguish the Turks from the Greeks. Nothing but a long irregular line of ships could be made out dancing in the hazy horizon, while all around and in the intervening distance, the glassy reflection of the unruffled surface corresponded with the glowing blaze of the cloudless sky. Soon after noon, however, this appearance of the sea began to change, and curling here and there it became streaked with darker shades, that promised a rising breeze, and accordingly, about an hour afterwards, a fine



ZANTE ISLAND, BAY, AND MARINO.

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northerly wind carried us to the southward, and enabled us to see the respective situations of both fleets.

The Turkish Fleet, to the number of about forty sail, frigates, corvettes, and brigs, seemed all standing out from the mouth of the Gulf of Patras, and from their going free, and to such a distance from their wonted blockading station, were evidently bearing down on the Greek fleet, then seen beating up past Zante. The latter numbered about seventeen sail, chiefly brigs, but distinguished from their enemies by the whiteness of their sails and the cleanness of their hulls. Before sunset we stood in towards Missolonghi, and then bore up for Zante, having passed through both fleets, and witnessed several manœuvres that took place between them. The breeze being strong and the whole of the Turks to windward, the Greeks wisely avoided an engagement with such unequal force, but keeping their wind, stood to the westward, between Zante and Cephalonia. The Turks seemed determined to keep to windward, which, by changing their course, they soon did, on seeing the Greeks shoot so quickly into the passage now mentioned. By this time these last were several miles to westward; but on observing the Turks hauling their wind, and thus giving up the chase, they soon took advantage of such a manœuvre, and knowing that in the night the Turks would not engage them, but rather strive to keep clear of the fireships, they tacked one after another, standing in towards Cephalonia, until almost within gunshot of their enemies. These now only amounting to about twelve frigates and corvettes (the others having run back into the gulf), soon afterwards tacked also, and standing out from Cephalonia, seemed determined to keep the weather-gage, and so long as they could be discerned by us, they, together with the Greeks, could be seen working to windward, and without firing on either side. During the whole day the report of bombs was constantly heard in the direction of Missolonghi, and even on approaching the harbour of Zante after nightfall, the same was distinctly heard from the deck, while the occasional flash was seen illuminating a light line of clouds in that direction.

During our short stay in Zante, everyone seemed on tiptoe of expectation as to the fate of Missolonghi, which has lately been threatened by such formidable forces by sea and land.* Reports, however, two days ago, were that the Turks had failed in a desperate attempt made to storm that place, and that the town was still holding out. During the 2nd inst., several brigs-of-war were seen passing, and, the morning of the 3rd, five more were in the offing of Zante all ready to catch the breeze and join their fleet. It was a calm most of the forenoon when we started from Zante on the 3rd inst., but a breeze springing up, we nearly arrived at Cape Papas before sunset. During the afternoon we discovered the Turkish fleet, which formed a line between Ithaca and the main to the northward of us, while further to the windward a number of vessels could be seen in the distance which we supposed to be the Greek fleet. The wind about sunset died away, the atmosphere got thick, and nothing could be seen of either fleet. Throughout the night the firing was kept up at intervals in the direction of Missolonghi.

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* Siege of Missolonghi—Assault by Turkish Troops, August 1st, 1825; taken April 23rd, 1826.

During the night of the 3rd, there was no wind, and on the succeeding morning while we still lay off Cape Papas, the Turkish fleet was seen to the westward, having taken a station off the mouth of the gulf between Cephalonia and Cape Papas, and only two Greek brigs could be seen to windward between Ithaca and Cephalonia. Soon after 8 o'clock A.M., the breeze sprung up and we ran into the gulf, with the wind at N.W. ; most part of the morning the haziness of the horizon continued to obscure the boundaries of the gulf; but as the breeze freshened it cleared away, and when about six miles off Missolonghi, a number of vessels were seen at anchor, and under sail between that and Patras, all of which we found to our astonishment to have the Greek colours flying. The headmost of those under way were keeping up a running fire in the direction of the castle of Patras. Having joined the Greek fleet about noon, a fine Turkish brig was seen in flames about a mile to leeward, and we learned from Admiral Miaulis, who had his flag flying in a beautiful brig of about eighteen guns, that during the night he had passed the Turkish fleet, and raised the blockade, relieved Missolonghi about seven o'clock in the morning, and thrown in a considerable quantity of ammunition and provisions, sufficient for two months consumption.

On the part of the combatants on the shore, firing had nearly ceased, with the exception of a shell exploding about every half-hour; and in about half-an-hour the firing in the offing also ceased, and when the smoke cleared away a fine Turkish brig was discovered in a perfectly crippled state, drifting towards the shore, but which was left to its fate on account of the whole force of the Greek fleet being required against that of the Turks. These, as I said before, were when the breeze sprung up in the morning well over on the Cephalonian shore, and, of course, were much longer in entering the gulf than we were. As soon as they felt the breeze, however, they made all sail, and had reached the mouth by the time we gained the anchorage at Missolonghi. Their approach and threatening aspect immediately put the other party on the alert, and in less than half-an-hour the whole of the Greek squadron, amounting to thirty sail, was under weigh, and in line making all sail out on the starboard tack, and with the wind at N.W. to meet the Capitan Ibrahim Pasha. Though to leeward, the former might have got out of the gulf from the quickness with which the headmost of their line shot past the Turks, but further manœuvres soon showed this was not their intention, and that they courted an engagement, for instead of running out of the gulf, the headmost tacked and stood in towards the Turkish line, while the sternmost lay to, beat to quarters, and prepared to engage.

By this time the Turkish frigates, which led the van of their line, were within two miles and a half distant when they shortened sail and hauled their wind, apparently paralysed by this daring manœuvre of the Greeks; for though to windward, and possessing a most unequal force, they seemed to avoid closing with their enemies to the leeward. The headmost brigs and fireships tacking, as I have before said, necessarily soon reduced the intervening distance to the range of gunshot, and in a manner compelled the sternmost Turks to open fire, which they did soon after the other party went on the larboard tack. In the meantime, returning the fire at intervals, the Greeks did not alter their course; but standing on, called forth a most tremendous fire upon them, and finally, being followed by the rest of their line on the larboard tack, they kept their wind and obliged the greater number of the Turks to tack also and to leave to them a considerable advantage, getting closer to the weather shore. Such advantages being yielded by the Turks soon developed the most daring energies of the Greeks; and were followed by their complete success in driving their enemies from Missolonghi entirely.

The Capitan Ibrahim Pasha only made one stand afterwards while crossing the Greek line on the opposite tack, when for a short time he seemed disposed to keep up a sharp fire. The headmost Greeks, however, again tacking, and being mostly fireships, by standing in seemingly with an intention of running aboard of the Capitane Pasha, created a great deal of confusion. Although they went in under such a heavy fire that the shot appeared to fall around them like hail, they never appeared to heed it by returning the fire, but passing the Pasha's frigate which made all sail and got out of their way, they with their protecting ships kept away and attempted to run aboard others farther to leeward, but without effect, for the enemy kept also farther away, gave up the ground, and though keeping up his fire on the Greeks who pressed close after him, were before dark driven completely out of the gulf.

In the course of the afternoon one of the bravest feats was displayed by one of the brigs, formerly mentioned as being outside under Ithaca, attempting to pass the Turkish line to windward and join her own fleet. This one of them did, and although running the gauntlet of every ship's fire that could bear on her, not only succeeded in joining her admiral before sunset, but apparently from the diversion made by her towards the western shore, enabled her own fleet to advance farther out and hang on the Turkish rear more closely with their fireships. From dark until midnight the firing was kept up at intervals, and from the direction in which this was seen, the Capitane Pasha was evidently loosing his windward position; and when I left the deck he was close under Cephalonia.

Towards midnight the wind died completely away, and with it the greater part of the firing; for the Greeks were no doubt cautious enough not to be caught within range of long shot in a calm. Before the calm happened some determined attempts must have been made to run their fireships aboard; for besides the flash of great guns, that of musketry was seen enlivening the hazy shade in which both fleets were hid under the land.

The calm which took place last night continued until this morning, when the Turkish fleet was seen to the westward of us under Cephalonia apparently trying to keep close to the island. The Greek fleet had mostly returned into the gulf, for only two were seen to the northward. Between Cephalonia and Zante, however, there was several of their brigs, as well as between Zante and the main, together with two fine-looking ships, all of which appeared to be an additional squadron. From the position of all these, the Turkish fleet appeared completely surrounded and exposed to the fireships whichever way the wind blew, if they advanced more into the offing.

Some Turkish vessels continued to beat up under Cephalonia in very close order, but the Greeks between Zante and Cephalonia, taking advantage of the sea breeze, backed in and undoubtedly would have got between them and the last mentioned island, from there not being water sufficient for frigates. The Capitane Pasha, who was seemingly aware of their intentions, had chosen to contend longer for the weather-gage with them, and had not borne up about one o'clock with his whole fleet, and made all the sail he could to the southward, passing the offing at Zante with a beautiful breeze from N.W. The Greeks were meanwhile to the windward in the Cephalonian passage, and made sail for a short time after them, then, pitching a parting shot or two at the fugitives' heels, hauled their wind for Missolonghi.

The other little squadron of seven sail, in which were the two ships, on seeing this movement of the Turks, took up a position on the south side of Mount Scopo, and lay to until they came down, when, fire being offered by the headmost of the grand fleet, they filled their sails, stood further out into the offing, and returned every gun that was fired at them. The wind, however, getting light, the Capitane Pasha kept away and took every advantage of it, plainly evincing with what assiduity he avoided closing even with such a handful of his enemies. His confused and paralysed movements were highly contrasted with the confidant behaviour, or rather temerity, of the Greeks: thus winding up a naval expedition, which in its superior metal and fire ought to have turned all in its favour with a despicable flight and pusillanimous resignation of a blockade, which one-half of his force ought to have maintained. Before sunset the fugitives were well down in the Gulf of Arcadia, having very little wind. The whole beach, the mole, and wharf at Zante, were lined with crowds of people, who during the afternoon had been anxiously witnessing the manœuvres of the two parties; and no little satisfaction was painted in the faces of every one on seeing the grand fleet once more make an inglorious retreat from the Ionian Sea.

CHAPTER XXVIII

Gulf Laconia—Maina—Marathonisi—Turkish Ravages—Cervi Island.

GULF OF KOLOKYTHIA, C. LACONIA—MOREA, 14*th August* 1825.—Nothing can scarcely be imagined so sterile, wild, and inhospitable, as is the appearance of some part of the shores of Maina, at this season of the year. Along the west side of the Gulf of Kolokythia, from Cape Matapan, every feature of the land appears to correspond with the description of character commonly given to the modern race of Spartans, and for two-thirds of the distance from this shore, the eye meets nothing but a chain of hills, on which there is scarcely a tree to be seen, or a shrub to give relief to the brown tinge of the sunburnt surface. These hills, which fill up the background, do not spread into any alluvial level at their bases, but form a bold and precipitous barrier to this wild domain, which is rendered still more wild by the numerous gullies and ravines opening at different distances on the foreground. At such places, the beach presents generally a small stoney margin, formed by the egorging rivulets, which, together with the little nooks and different hollows of projecting rocks seem well adapted for the piratical barque and corsair, for, unfit as they are for sheltering the wearied trader, they offer nothing to induce the smallest sail of any other character to approach their forbidding retirements. On the west side of the Laconian Gulf, the first town of any consideration is that near to Porto Caillo, and which is placed on the elevated table of the hilly land that overlooks the little harbour.

Unlike what we are accustomed to consider towns, this, which stands about two miles from the beach, only consists of a number of separate buildings, the principal of which are high square towers without windows, and surrounded by several lower houses built without any order. At such distances are these towers erected from each other, that every one's house is certainly his castle. Among these towers, now inhabited by the chiefs of the Mainotes, and where Society is what it might have been in Scotland some two hundred years ago, a few trees are here and there interspersed, which only seem to increase the obscurity and throw more wildness over the scene. In the vicinity of this place there is a considerable portion of land, which, from the stubble seen whitening the surface, seems to have been cropped with corn. This is soon, however, lost in the barren ridges of the intervening precipice or rough crested eminences of the hills in the background.

The harbour lying under the town, between which the communication is only by a steep and rugged path, is anchorage only for small coasting vessels and boats, being small and snug from most winds, but cannot be of any consequence for men-of-war. The soil around seems to have been all cropped, but its different galleries now present in their amphitheatrical range, the bare and deserted tinge of the remaining stubble. On an eminence in its rear stands a look-out tower, called Pyngos by the Greeks, from which, no doubt, the vigilant eye of the pirate is often wistfully directed, or the destructive powers of the storm invoked, to sweep the crippled barque on the neighbouring rocks, over which he has often darted with a heart harder than the unconscious stone he stands upon, and lawlessly glutted himself with his luckless prey. *Tempora mutantur.* Now no more does the mariner land at this promontory and invoke in pious sacrifice the favours of Neptune; he avoids its barbarous shores, and only profiting by it as a landmark, allows it to rise and sink in the liquid hemisphere, as the abode of inhospitality and cruel piracy, which character it certainly deserves and will long maintain.

The next town on this coast is Scutari, which is about half-way up the gulf, and crowning the summit of a small hill close to the beach, and at the N.W. end of a little bay. The style of its buildings is similar to those described as forming the town of Porto Caillo, but from its more compact situation, the nice sweep of its level beach, and the well-cultivated appearance of the district, it is far from being so uninviting as the latter, and has rather a pretty aspect to seaward. While the environs of the place and all the foreground seem to have been cropped with corn, the rest of the prospect swells up through a congeries of hills, each more wild than another, until the northern sky is finally seen occupied by the peaked and majestic outline of the towering Taygetus.

Scutari appears to be well-known to all the Greek islanders, the Maltese, and others, as the retreat of numerous pirates; and many robberies and plunderings are, I dare say, with a great deal of justice, alleged against its inhabitants; for all their movements and appearances as seen cursorily by the passing voyager, throw a shade of suspicion around them. If honestly occupied they would not turn out in such armed numbers, prepared for defensive or offensive operations; this alone bespeaks their idle, roving, and adventurous way of living. Besides, their more civilised brethren at Marathonisi, which is their capital, seem to have their eyes open to their conduct and reputed character; and if they do not openly condemn them, perhaps through fear of their numbers, yet from the sneers and taciturn expression of their sentiments respecting them, the injured stranger can well divine the difference of feeling existing between them. The inhabitants of Scutari did not appear in different costume from the other Moreotes, and seemed all well armed. The Bay of Scutari contains anchoring ground for numerous large vessels; as it is open, however, to the S.E., it cannot be safe when the wind is strong in that direction.

From hence to the top of the Gulf of Maina, the face of the country gradually improves; and there the mountains and highlands running northward, from the two sides of the gulf, leave a valley between them, which is the course of the River Eurotas, whose meadówy waters meet the waves on a beach as tame as it looks deserted, and which is highly contrasted with much of the neighbouring boundary.

The principal port of Maina is situated at the N.W. end of the gulf, and is now called Marathonisi; but in ancient times was Gythium, the grand naval port and rendezvous for the Lacedemonian fleet. It is formed by a small rocky island which shuts it in to the southward, and makes a complete breakwater in that direction; so that the anchorage, which is of considerable extent, is only open to the eastward, and of course to very little sea across the head of the gulf. The town is a mere village in point of extent, and is built on the bight of the beach, screened close to the rear by a little sunburnt hill, and only occupies the site of what must have been the ancient marine suburbs of

Gythium, as that town was situated some distance inland. Close to the town, which is entirely unfortified, are a number of ruins, and what I believe were Roman, but are now called *Paleocastro*, a name which is given by the Greeks to most old ruins of which they do not know the history.

The people of Marathonisi do not appear generally armed, and are less a separate body of Mainotes than at other places, for having a good deal of communication with other places in consequence of their exports of oil, and valloniers for dyeing, Cerigottes, Albanians, and numerous others are found there. The chief man was a Capitano Zantacchi, a fine, stout, middle-aged Mainote, well disposed towards the English, as indeed they all appeared to be at this place. While there, a fine Polacca, Greek-armed, brig arrived from off Missolonghi, where she had been during the expulsion of the Capitane Pasha's fleet from that place on the 4th of August 1825.

Opposite to Scutari is an anchorage and bay called Arcangelo, formed to the northward by a projecting hill and a low rocky point to the southward. There is anchorage behind each of these, which, according to the direction of the wind, may be used as a place of safety. The former is open to S. and S.W., while the latter is open only to the westward, and has water for anchorage closer in. At its head stands a Greek Church, which is known by the same name, and is an excellent mark from its whiteness for the place. It was found locked and in a good state of repair, only used, I suppose, when the feast of its patron saint comes round in the calender, for there is not a house within miles of it. The face of the country is bare, and, with the exception of a few patches of stubble seen here and there, is in a perfect state of nature. Close to it is a finely built well, no doubt for the use of the religious devotees resorting hither. The walls of what no doubt must have been intended for the Padre's domicile, which has never been finished, appear to have been shaken by an earthquake, or to have been badly built.

Whilst strolling around its vicinity one day with some others of the ship, two of the natives came down armed, and I could not avoid remarking the zealous sense showed by them for their religion in stopping opposite to the church and crossing themselves before approaching to speak to us. They had a very meagre and miserable appearance, being some of the poorer peasantry; and which accorded well with the story, which, through the interpretation of an Ionian pilot, they told us, and was to this effect, that Ibrahim Pasha had been ransacking the whole interior of the district of ancient Laconia, its churches, villages, and inland towns, with his Arabs, and was then only at a short distance; while, to save their lives, their houses and homes had been deserted by the inhabitants, and the wildest hills or the still more wild and comfortless Isle of Cervi to the southwards, had now become the miserable retreats of their surviving wives and children, from both which places they could not shut their ears to the sound of the ravaging guns that were laying waste their country.

This story was verified on visiting the Island of Cervi the following day. There, upwards of 2000 unarmed men, women, and children, were found taking advantage of its precarious shelter, for the island being only separated from the mainland by a very narrow and shallow passage, the Turks would find little difficulty, during the absence of European men-of-war, in crossing and butchering, as they would do, every soul of them. Having but been a few days at the place, and without tents or other cover from the sea and weather than what the few stunted shrubs on the bare beach afforded them, they presented altogether a most miserable scene. The little children seemed, as they no doubt were, the happiest, and enlivened the beach with their frolic and play, heedless of their present circumstances.

Other feelings, were, however, depicted in the faces of their mothers and the aged. The former, true to the characteristic buoyancy of female spirit in extreme distress, were actively carrying on their domestic labour as best they could; and thus, while in one place some were washing, others were nursing the cradled infant to rest on their backs, or were busied at the distaff. Some again were cutting the shrubs down, gathering sticks or forming a shelter from the weather; some arranging the little movables or furniture saved by them, and with which the beach was thickly strewed for about a mile in length. To several, I saw life must have been a burden, under the pressure of years and in such troublesome times. One very old woman, who was seated in a little sandy nook, alone with her little bundle, seemed the picture of disconsolate and neglected old age itself, and expressed in her countenance all she had lately experienced, and the darkness with which the sunset of her days was overcast. Sheep, cattle, and pigs, they had plenty of. Bread, however, appeared very scarce, in consequence of the corn-mills, millstones and ovens, having been destroyed by the Egyptians; and they trusted for a supply to the arrival of some boats from other ports or to the retreat of Ibrahim Pasha from their district.

Cervi is a small island about three miles long and one broad, situated to the westward of Cape Angelo and close to the main. In whose hands is the superiority, I am not aware; it is almost bare and uncultivated, though in many parts capable of being laboured so as to produce cotton, grapes, and barley. To seafaring people it is well known as affording a good and safe roadstead and anchorage between it and the cape during most winds. The land opposed to it seemed good, and though thinly inhabited near the beach, in the proportion of its wood and verdure, is perfectly different in appearance to the east and south aspect of Cape Angelo, than which a more sterile, scorched, and storm-lashed promontory can hardly be found.

CHAPTER XXIX

Turkish War—Egyptian and Arab Atrocities—Harvest Produce.

MARATHONISI, GULF LACONIA, MOREA, *October* 8, 1825.—A few days have developed new and stronger traits of the nature of the warfare in this country; and on revisiting Marathonisi the other day, its appearance and that of its environs were found to have assumed that of a ravaged country, or of being driven to the sole resources of a defenceless territory and population. The first indication of such a change was the appearance of the little rocky island, formerly noticed as forming the anchorage at this place. Instead of its wildly bare look, without an arrival of any kind to be seen on it as formerly, and rough though it was, it had now become a place of immediate refuge for thousands, and was covered with tents, rude huts, and was all alive with women, children and their numerous domestic animals and beasts of burden; while the quantity of movables piled up all around them, or scattered over the rocky surface of the place, showed that similar circumstances had visited them as were experienced by their fellow-countrymen at Cape Angelo. We found that they not only had been driven from the country and banks of the Eurotas, but from the very close approach of the Egyptian cavalry, troops, and artillery, they had found it necessary to remove every non-combatant from the place to the island, or to the interior of Maina, as well as all their valuable goods and movables to other places of security. At one time a detachment of the cavalry approached within a quarter of a mile of the town; but from the great number of muskets (Carne vivo) that were turned out against them, and the narrow pass between the sea and the hill into the place, they made their retreat with the loss of a man and two horses, which last were seen by us.

Previous to this the Egyptians had glutted themselves, so far as the burning of villages and ovens, collecting plunder, and massacring the aged and defenceless, could satisfy them; and at one house which, I believe, was a granary for the exportation of corn and oil, and situated on the west side of the mouth of the little stream at Trinisi, four miles from this town, they apparently had a most desperate conflict from the number of dead bodies seen in it. These amounted to nearly *fifty*, thirteen of which were Greeks; the others still showed the Mahometan lock, and were all lying, as they had fallen, under the point of the yatacan and knife; some were in the exterior yard, some at the foot of the outer stairs, and others at different parts of the interior, where they had met with opposition, and fallen.

From the recent marks of fire and dilapidation in the place, the Arabs had eventually obtained the place; while from the blood seen in streams dried or in clots all over the place, and the great number of shaven scalps, they must have bought the place dearly, and the few Greeks pent up in it sold no less dearly their lives to them. The destruction of this part of the country had been a work of about two or three weeks, and after losing a considerable number of men, the Arabs have, from the latest accounts received at Marathonisi, again evacuated these environs, and are wisely making a retreat towards their rendezvous at Tripolizza, without attempting to penetrate farther into the interior of Maina.

Reports, however, are not to be entirely depended upon; the Greeks of this place have it that in the retreat the Turks had been intercepted in some narrow pass, and lost upwards of 500 men killed. Unfortified as Marathonisi is, from its only being approachable through one narrow road closely hemmed in by hill and sea, the occupation of it, no doubt, would cost many lives, and after all, nothing would have been found but empty houses to burn. Zantacchi, the richest and chief man of the place, had done everything for the preservation of his townsmen's lives and property, and besides making a good stand against the enemy, had put every house of consequence in a state to cover them from musketry (even to the belfry of the church itself), the windows of which he had all built up with large stones, behind which they had intended to entrench themselves if pushed to the last extremity of defence.

On receiving the intelligence of Ibrahim Pasha's retreat, the refugees began to disperse themselves, the labourers again to work in the fields of cotton round the place, and the thoroughfare backwards and forwards between the town and country to be re-established. The town still remained deserted on the 7th inst., every shop shut, and very few women to be seen, while some armed men and Turkish slaves alone enlivened it.

While walking over the neighbouring ruins of Paleo Castra, some women of the latter description were pointed out at work along with the women of the place. They had laid aside their native habits, and their faces were exposed in the same manner as the Greeks. On inquiring how long they had been slaves, I was told since the first of the insurrection, and that numbers had at one time been made Christians, but in consequence of some running away, and again turning Turks, they had now ceased to baptise them at all. In this part of the Morea the unmarried women are distinguished by a square patch of red sewed on their petticoats behind. Their dress otherwise differs nothing from that of others, and the jerkin petticoat and handkerchief head-dress are the chief part of their costume.

From all that I could learn of this district, it is even now, as it always has been, considered a precarious place for a stranger to penetrate far into. The soldiers of the place themselves said so, stating some might be trusted, but that others struggling from various parts of the Maina, might show a different character, and plunder, rob, or murder a defenceless stranger. It is astonishing the prejudice entertained by the Greeks against the French. On seeing some of us in the country, they inquisitorially demanded whether we were French, and seemed highly pleased at finding us English, and said they could kill and cut up a Frenchman in pieces, for they were not fighting against the Turks but the French, who, they said, composed the artillery and most effective of those enemies who had driven them from their homes and pillaged their country.*

As to the costume of the men, all the chieftains appeared in the Albanian, the others in the common Greek dress; they generally seemed an active rather than a stout race of people; their children, however, looked very stout, mostly ruddy, and well clothed. The grapes had all been gathered, yet the vineyards still retained their beautiful foliage, and, being very extensive with their lively shade, much enriched the appearance of the adjoining country. Cotton appears to be a great crop, and they are now picking it for the third time this season. The females appeared the most numerous class engaged at this sort of work, and carried it to Marathonisi, or farther inland, in large bags on their backs. Vegetables were scarce, and with the exception of onions, shallots, and pampkins, not to be got. Cattle, sheep, and pigs were also plentiful, and oil, which is supposed to be of a very superior kind for the table. There was rice to be bought also, though of a dark colour. Eggs and poultry could not be had, everything of that kind having been made use of first in their removing from their several homes on the invasion of the Egyptian marauders.

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* 'Shall teach the pale Frank, what it is to be slaves.'—*Byron.*

CHAPTER XXX

Missolonghi, Siege of—Fort Agio, Egyptian Camp—
Vostizza Ruins.

AT SEA, OFF ITHACA, GULF ADRIATIC, *22nd January* 1826.—The progress of the belligerents in Greece, to all appearance, is now approaching towards something like a decisive crisis, if one may judge from the naval and military armaments now conveyed or directed on Missolonghi. Egypt and the Arabs have at length disgorged themselves on the shores of Greece, and threaten in good earnest to carry, still farther than already they have done, both bloodshed and depopulation over the fair face of the country.

All the additional force which the Prince Ibrahim got from Alexandria in the fall of the year, is chiefly now directed for operations in this quarter; and if these soldiers were as brave as they are numerous, they would, no doubt, soon change every feature of this classic soil, like to the sterile desert from which they come. The operations on both sides, particularly on that of the stronger party, are carried on without energy or expedition; and the bubble of one day's threats bursts only into the fruitless emptiness of another repetition;

so that little can even be drawn from what has already passed.

Until the latter end of November, hostilities were confined to the land, since the Capitane Pasha, in August, had given up the blockade of Missolonghi, which, I believe, wanted for nothing. With the reinforcement which at that time was brought from Egypt, the combined Ottoman fleet also returned, and have maintained the blockade of the Gulf of Patras for some time.

Previous to the very bad weather setting in, they had to contend with, or be on their guard against, the Greek fleet, which, to the number of about thirty, had followed and watched their motions as far up as the end of December 1825, when they relinquished their vigilance to settle some disturbance amongst the rest of the fleet about money matters at Hydra, or to keep up the Christmas holidays. They have, however, again returned, and to the number of twenty sail and upwards, are now cruising off or in the Gulf of Patras, or at anchor on some part of the neighbouring shore of the Morea. The Turkish fleet are not to be seen; no advanced squadron at sea to keep up the blockade, but, unable to withstand the severity of the season, they have retired to Patras, the castles of the Morea, or other quiet anchorages in the interior of the Gulf of Patras.

Previous to the disappearance of the Greek fleet, only once did they come into collision at this season, and that was to the northward of the Skropha Islands in the vicinity of Ithaca. The Greeks happened to be to the northward, when a change of wind throwing them to leeward, the Turks were encouraged to try one of their fireships, of which they for the first time have got a number this campaign, as well as the Greeks. After missing the Greek Admiral, Miaulis, for whose ship it was intended, the bruletta was fired, but without effecting anything but that of nearly burning one of their own frigates, which, under a spirited fire from a few Greek brigs and with the loss of some of their men, the Mussulmans got towed out of danger.

During the absence of the Greek fleet, while the operations were still carried on before Missolonghi, though in an enfeebled and thwarted manner, Ibrahim Pasha was principally employed in collecting his Arab force at Fort Agio, preparing there for embarkation, and transporting them and their warlike detail to the Romelian shore, to establish an encampment before Missolonghi. This he has finally succeeded in doing, and now from the middle of the gulf his long, imposing, and extensive encampment may be seen sweeping round the town of Missolonghi on the first rising ground. A shell sometimes is seen bursting as the thick volume of smoke points out when a gun has here and there been discharged, but nothing like effective operation or bombardment is begun by the besiegers. In fact, such is the severity of the winter season, the snow-storms, gales, rains, and frosts, that I cannot conceive how anything can be done by the Turks while such a severe season lasts, which on this side of Greece must be for two months longer.

In passing the castles of the Morea lately on our way to Vostizza, a fine opportunity was afforded us of seeing the formidable encampment of Ibrahim Pasha at Fort Agio, previous to his embarkation for the vicinity of Missolonghi. The last time I had seen these castles was two years ago, when they were what they had for many years previously been—the solitary semblance of a military hold, and the post of a few Turkish soldiers, while in passing them the muzzle of a honeycombed gun, a turban on the crested turret, a solitary horse grazing in the vicinity, were all that testified to them being the habitations of man. The other day the whole aspect was changed, the anchorage was covered with transports and ships of war, the channel was a living thoroughfare, and the verdure of the plain near the castle was hid by long lines of tents, under which the Prince of Egypt had canopied his troops.

The last had a very imposing appearance and certainly proclaimed all the pomp and circumstance of war-like preparations, from the great extent of the camp, its regularity, and the detail that was attached to it. All was alive, corps of infantry were drilling, parties of gay horsemen were moving about, and the smoke and detached tents of the distant picquet parties, with the innumerable flocks of cattle, sheep, etc., altogether made up a military scene which could scarcely be expected among the swarthy sons of the desert. The whole host seemed to be filled with hopes of further success. Ibrahim Pasha was there himself with 8000 men, mostly Arabs, all ready to embark for the siege, and since then he has sat down before Missolonghi with 14,000 men, 4000 of which are Albanian troops. From the bad state of the weather he has not been able to do much, and it is questionable whether he has got all his guns up to the place and mounted; for his encampment is a considerable way in the rear of the town, and he does not yet seem to have been able to occupy the nearer and summer position of the other besiegers.

In fact, although the Turks now have cannon enough afloat to annihilate half-a-dozen Greek fleets, there is no real blockade kept up, for the whole of the combined fleets are at an anchor off Patras, the castles, or other anchorages in the interior of the gulf. The last time any of them were out, one frigate lost her rudder, and a fine brig her foremast and bowsprit, so that, unable to manage their ships in such weather, they perhaps act from necessity in only keeping up a nominal blockade.

The Gulf of Corinth looks the same as I had formerly seen it, except so far as the change from summer to winter has affected the prospect. The snowy top of Parnassus and surrounding mountains, the cold bosom of its waters, and the circuit of its beautiful but deserted shores, were still in union with the expression of the times that over-clouded their hemisphere. With the exception of the white walls and lofty minarets of Lepanto, and the few red flags still seen proclaiming the Ottoman superiority of the place, not a single roof is seen enlivening the beach on either side as far up as Vostizza. In one place the withered, in the other the neglected olive, in a third, the dark myrtle copse or wild shrub, are seen fringing the boundary in all the unshorn license of native vegetation; while the dark shade of the wild wood, and the green untrodden face of the Highland scenery in the rear, told little but a tale of the refugee, the bandit, or of anything but what this country should produce and contain.

Vostizza's white ruins, and all its rich and beautiful environs were nearly the same as I had seen them three years ago—wild, tenantless, literally deserted. Time and the spontaneous growth of the soil had alone made some little difference in the general dilapidation, rounding in some places the outline of the ruins, in others screening their height from the ground, and the features of the whole were softened into the less pointed and remarkable one of age and desertion. The Greeks, no doubt, still desirous of clinging even to the ashes of their homes, had some time ago repaired a few of their houses for sheltering themselves temporarily during the seed-time and harvest. These few have, however, been overturned during the summer by the Turks, and the recesses of their hills must still be the forlorn retreat of the modern Achaians.

The watering fountains and the old venerable plane tree have been held sacred; and while the latter still stands a showy landmark, the former continues to make Vostizza a desirable spot as a watering place for ships; for, besides there being a beautiful anchorage from the depth of water, and its vicinity to the beach, there are seventeen spouts of water from one spring, at the distance of a few yards from the landing-place, which are all constructed in a building of excellent stonework, covering the spring and built by the Venetians, while they had possession of the country.

In the neighbourhood of the place there are numbers of armed men as before, and, though from the defenceless state of the place and vicinity, they can make but little effective resistance to the disembarkation of the other party, still from the appearance of the neighbouring ground, and the more important points with which the Pasha of Egypt was occupied during the last summer, it is most probable the people cropped the land and were enabled to reap some measure of a harvest.

CHAPTER XXXI

Greek and Turkish Fleets in Action—Greek Fireships—Turkish Ship Burnt.

Off Missolonghi, Gulf of Patras, *29th January*, 1826.—For the last forty-eight hours the monotony of the warfare between the contending parties has been broken through, and their operations have been rather interesting to the neutral spectator. On the morning of the 27th, Miaulis' squadron of twenty-five sail were at anchor behind the Skropha Islands, and with the view of obtaining some advantage over two or three of their enemies' ships at anchor on the north side of the gulf, one of which had her lower yards down, they got under weigh in the course of the afternoon, but whether seen by the Turks or not, I cannot say; in the interim the latter kept under sail all day, and when night came they were seen cruising between the Skropha Islands and Cape Papas, where they must have continued during the night without coming to an anchor.

Towards morning the Greek fleet had beaten up to the same place, and before four o'clock in the morning of the 28th, they had come into collision from the flashes and reports of great guns seen and heard from the anchorage off Missolonghi. About an hour and a half afterwards these signs of contention were conspicuously confirmed by the blaze of a fireship, which burst forth to the westward and in the direction of the mouth of the gulf, at the distance of about six or seven miles from Missolonghi.

It was a beautiful clear starry morning, the moon was waning, the wind very scanty, not a cloud to be seen on the starry heavens, and everything strikingly contrasted with the terrific object that then rivetted upon its destructive flame the eyes of every beholder. So bright was the conflagration, that to the naked eye the whole seemed an immense orb of fire resting on the watery horizon, and neither the fireship nor the object of her certain destruction could be at all distinguished. By the help of a night-glass, the masts of both could be seen like pillars of fire, and over all, at one time, the royals and other lofty sails could be distinguished, also reflecting back from their illumined folds the light of the flames that soon afterwards consumed them. For some time the size of the flame gradually increased, and then became stationary; while through the volumes of smoke which nothing but the darkness of the morning prevented us from seeing, the white sails of some other vessels could be seen illumined as they passed or manœuvred round the nucleus of light; and at times the stillness of the hour was interrupted by the occasional report of some guns in the same direction.

In about one hour after the fire was first seen, the close and repeated discharges of great guns marked the progress of the flame, and that the heat had ignited the loaded cannon; while in a few minutes afterwards, the explosion of the magazine took place, with a sudden burst and elevation into the atmosphere of a tremendous body of ignited materials, which at first were hid by the dense body of smoke they carried up with them, but afterwards, on descending, appeared like a thousand rockets slowly dropping from the acmé of their projection. With the descent of these the sound of the explosion just reached us, and burst on the ear with a concussion hardly to be conceived, save from the jaws of a volcano; while the body of dark smoke, now separated from its source, in its buoyancy soon took its equilibrium on high, got a little silvered on top by the faint rays of the moon, and serenely sailed along with the breeze, as the only cloud of the morning, leaving soon the scene of darkness, death, and bloodshed, from which it had arisen.

This was a scene which certainly in its grandeur might have kindled up the burning ardour of the youthful warrior with admiration; it was one, however, which to humanity was of melancholy consideration, and revolting to the feelings; for as we afterwards learned, many of our fellow-creatures fell by the sword as well as by the fire. Surrounded by the Greeks, and in escaping from the flames, many sank under the no less ruthless sword of their enemies, and with their blood dyed the waves, to which they had committed themselves for safety.

The burning of this vessel, which proved to be a large corvette found by the Greeks at anchor on the north side of the gulf, was followed by the retreat of the Turkish squadron towards Patrass, and the entrance after them of Miaulis' fleet, which soon after daylight were seen off Missolonghi. Communicating with the place, the Greek fleet only awaited a breeze favourable to their further advancement, while in the interior a flotilla of large boats under sail followed them and entered the canals, and made for the town with provisions, powder, etc., so that the blockade of the place was again raised for the third time this campaign.

In the first part of the day the wind kept very light, but slowly carried the Greek fleet up towards that of their enemies, which was formed at some distance from them in the bottom of the gulf. About half-past ten A.M., these last having got the wind from off the shore in their rear, slowly but cautiously advanced out towards the Greeks; but the wind being little to be depended on, and variable, they hove to or kept close on the wind within range of gunshot, when a mutual fire commenced on both sides, but principally on that of the Turks.

So favourable was the breeze at one time, that these were completely to windward, and must have gained great advantage over the Greeks had they pressed hard upon them. The large frigates, however, eight or nine in number, did not follow up this offered advantage, but seeing the wind falling light, made the best of their way and kept to windward; while another part of their fleet got becalmed, and only kept their enemies at bay by a constant fire, as they approached or manœuvred along their line.

One of the Turkish fireships having, previous to the wind becoming scanty, rather boldly advanced on the van of the Greek fleet, it was boarded and taken possession of, without much resistance, in the face of the whole Turkish fleet, and at a moment when but few of them could render any support except with their boats, which, considering their number, they ought easily to have done. One Greek boat boarded on the quarter and another on the bow, and the crew of the fireship, after discharging a few musket shots, jumped over the opposite side of the vessel, escaped in a launch, and got under the protection of some of the nearest of their own vessels. In a moment after the Greeks got on board, the bloody flag was hauled down, in the place of which the white cross was hoisted, and the sails trimmed for bringing her into their own line of battle.

It was a beautifully clear day when this happened, and scarce a ripple on the water save when disturbed by the concussion of the guns, which for some time kept a continued reverberation in the atmosphere. The capture of this vessel must have been galling to the Capitane Pasha, who was at no great distance with the rest of the heavy ships, keeping his adversaries at bay, and expected to have seen the destruction of some of them through her means. This is the first season that the Turks have thought of using fireships as well as the Greeks, who have again still further outreached them in the adoption of armed boats and gunboats, for taking advantage of such opportunities of boarding as this instance afforded.

There was little or no wind until four o'clock P.M., until which a constant and sometimes heavy fire was kept up by the Pasha's ships. They were too far off to do much execution, and their adversaries, who had not more than one killed and six wounded (mostly in consequence of the bursting of a gun), seemed at no part of the day to be disconcerted or confused. As the breeze freshened, which was from the eastward and admitted of almost equal advantages to both, the weather-gage as usual became the desideratum, but night approaching, a mutual cessation of firing took place, and the Turks were seen beating farther up the gulf, and the Greeks keeping the offing at Missolonghi about sunset.

Thus terminated another day during which the Capitane Pasha and his grand armament were bearded to the teeth, and an opportunity lost of annihilating the light flotilla which opposed them. The dread, however, of the fireships and the uncertainty of the wind keeping in his favour, together with the consideration that mercy had nothing to do with the contest, no doubt prevented the one party from coming to close quarters, in such light winds and variable weather; while a consciousness of their inferior force and finances will ever prevent the Greeks from offering battle in any circumstances or weather, or risking any loss except in such a situation as the Turks were formed in to-day. In their present capacities no general engagement will ever occur, one or the other will decline, and partial contingencies will follow solely from advantages either afforded by the wind and weather, or superiority of situation respecting each other. Thus, while the wind is from the west and the Turks to leeward, the other will remain off Missolonghi and watch their opportunity; but with the wind from the east, they must give up the station or suffer from the fire of their enemies, who while to windward will always attack them.

Previous to the Greeks closing with their opponents this morning, an example of the barbarous character of this war took place before our eyes, which was revolting to the feelings of every civilised being. From the bowsprit of the Greek Admiral's brig, a Turk was seen to jump into the water, whether forced or not I cannot tell, but in passing a boat towing astern, one of the men in the boat drew his yatacan and cut him across the face; while, as the vessel left him struggling in the waves, others levelled their muskets and fired on him from the stern of the same brig, as well as of another, soon after which he sank to rise no more. Some of the Greeks said he was saved from the corvette burnt in the morning, and that his jumping overboard was in consequence of having attempted the life of some of the people on board, by seizing on one of their knives. However true this may be, it shows how horrid is the character of the war, and how much its termination might be wished for.

Amid all the strife and hubbub, the Greeks seem not to consider themselves in blue water, but keep up their religious observances; and to-day being St Antonio's day, a salute of three guns was fired from each vessel in the morning, and what seemingly added to the singularity of the day, one of the brigs stood across from Missolonghi to Cape Papas, and fired a Turkish corvette and fireship that had been on shore for some days. They soon were hid in volumes of smoke and flame, which continued even at night to point out their situation from a great distance.

Before Missolonghi nothing has yet been done, except so far as Ibrahim Pasha may have been putting his force in proper train for bombarding the place. Terms of capitulation have been offered to and were refused the other day by the besieged, and at present they are enjoying free communication seaward, and have a sight of their fleet and all the benefit that must accrue to them from its presence in the gulf.

CHAPTER XXXII

Siege of Missolonghi.

The Gulf of Patras, *23rd April* 1826.—Since the latter end of January, the increased forces of the Turks have enabled them to prosecute the siege of this place with more effect, and especially during the absence of the Greek fleet after their last cruise up these seas. The Turks having taken, in succession, Anatolico, and the little outer fort which commands the principal passage into the canals before Missolonghi, the difficulty of the Greeks getting supplies thrown into the place became very great, while to complete its perfect beleaguerment, and to cut off every communication from without, gunboats were stationed at the places now mentioned, and in consequence the town had latterly been deprived of every sustenance. The besieged were reduced to complete starvation ; having no bread for seventeen days, they were compelled to subsist on the carcasses of horses, cats, or any animal they could procure, but these miserable resources having at length failed, as well as the ultimate ones of roots and seaweeds from the beach, for some days they remained in utter destitution of everything on which nature could possibly subsist. Thus invested, the speedy fall of the place became no longer a question. The besieged, however, seemed to have strained every nerve in defending the place. They had made some desperate sorties, and repelled several attempts to storm, with great credit to themselves and loss to the enemy, in the last of which attacks a Pasha and several hundred Arab troops were killed.

About twelve days ago (11th April) the Greek fleet, to the number of thirty-one sail, arrived from the Levant, under the commands of Miaulis and Androussi. They were too late, however, to effect any good for the relief of Missolonghi, except some very extraordinary circumstances had turned out in their favour. This was not to be expected, yet they persisted, from the period of their arrival, to take every advantage of the weather, in order to attack the Capitane Pasha's grand fleet, or destroy some of his vessels, or to attempt the practicability of throwing some provisions into the town. Such, however, were the overwhelming power and numbers of the enemy, who, without doubt, had now gained more experience as well as more confidence in themselves, that any attempts to destroy their ships or give them battle would, if not attended with greater losses on the part of the Greeks than on that of their adversaries, at least be followed by losses which the former were less able to sustain.

That the place must have fallen soon by famine, was, no doubt, the fixed opinion of the besiegers, for nothing like regular bombardment was latterly carried on by either boats or batteries, while the only token of an active siege was the occasional smoke of a great gun rising round the place, or the explosion of a bomb at distant periods during the day, the fire of either of which was seldom returned by the Greeks. The town appeared closely encircled by masses of tents, to the distance of two miles or more inland, and the intervening beach and canals were one line of batteries, gunboats, and armed rafts, on all of which the crimson flag was flying. The town itself presented, at a short distance, a perfect mass of ruins; the houses and walls were apparently knocked to pieces or entirely neglected, and so few people could be seen moving about within the precincts of the place, that it could scarcely be supposed it was the rendezvous of 10,000 living beings, or could be an object for the assembling of such a formidable armament as was now investing it by sea and land.

No longer, however, was this place, so frequently and so long been the scene of inveterate hostilities and determined valour, now destined to exist. On the night of the 22nd of April at eleven o'clock, the commencement of its final destruction was announced by the bursting upwards of a bright flame from the place, and its broad reflection on the heavy clouds that hung over the spot. The resplendent fire gradually increased throughout the night, and was, at times, accompanied with dreadful explosions, and the elevation of immense volumes of dark smoke into the atmosphere. In the intervals, frequent flashes of musketry were seen along the hills behind the town, which pointed out, it appears, the desperate scenes of collision between the escaping parties and the Turks; while to fill up the tumult of midnight battle and massacre, the drums on the beach beat to arms, the cries of people were heard in every direction, and lights were to be seen moving to and fro in all parts of the sutling camp.

At daylight the fire continued to rage, and the bodies of exploded smoke became more apparent, confirming every one of us in the idea that Missolonghi was no more. Its fate was too truly seated in this dreadful night, for before six in the morning, a general salute, in honour of the conquest, was fired by the whole Turkish fleet that were at anchor or scattered over the neighbouring gulf.

From the accounts collected in the morning from the Turkish officers, and afterwards from refugees, it appears that the Greeks, no longer able to withstand the horrors of famine, formed the bold resolution of cutting their way through the lines of their besiegers, or perishing in the almost forlorn attempt. For this purpose, the combatants disposed themselves in four columns, each of which made a sortie in a direction different from the others, and had enclosed in its centre their portion of the infirm, their women, and children. The first column of 400 that sallied out at nine o'clock in the evening, to attack the enemy's battery in front, were, in an instant, almost cut to pieces. One hundred alone gained the paths to the mountains under the incessant pursuit of the Turkish cavalry. General Favella, seeing the disaster which befell this column, gave orders for the other columns to remain and suffer to the last extremity in Missolonghi; but, impelled by the ruling passion of hatred to the Turks, and of the love of life and freedom, which is implanted in human nature, many parties fought their way, or escaped through the tumultuous lines of their enemies during the night.

About eleven o'clock the same night, the Turks, in mass, made an irruption from the battery called the Terrible, and stormed the town, setting fire to all the little wooden houses on that side, and massacring all the women and children that fell in their way. The armed Greeks themselves—some to their fortified houses, and others to the batteries, where these last, having fought for two hours, joined those in the fortified houses, which, to the number of fifty, were supplied with ammunition. Finding themselves still harder beset, and in danger of being taken prisoners, they all set fire to their houses, and were burnt or buried in the ruins on the same night. In the fortified mills were 150 men, who defended themselves nearly the whole of the following day, but, at length worn out and quite exhausted, they fired their ammunition, and blew themselves to atoms. The aged, infirm, the women and children, having in great numbers fled to one place, also fought for several hours, and finally blew themselves up, with desperate devotion, in one fearful explosion.

Such is the sad account of the fall of Missolonghi. The particular histories of many of the parties, who were the actors and sufferers in this bloody cause, are full of eventful interest. Before submitting to the mercies of the Turks, they, who were not immolated in the place, tried to escape in every way and direction. Many plunged into the water, and remained several hours immersed, to avoid the notice of the enemy. A party of twenty reached Petala the day after, of whom there were several women and children. The women said they got out of the town when the first sortie failed, along with an old man then present with them, and they had to go a great distance in the water. They were fired at by the Turkish sentinels several times, and escaped being wounded, but one of the infants, having cried on their way, and being in hazard of bringing the lives of the whole party into jeopardy, was made a sacrifice, and thrown by its mother's own hands into the water, where it perished.

The Turkish accounts are, that a good many of the garrison escaped, and that about 5000, mostly women and children, were made prisoners. They also say that terms of capitulation, similar to those at Navarin, were offered the day previous to the fall of the place, but were not accepted, and that of those who fell, nearly 3000 pairs of ears were despatched to Constantinople, as trophies of their valour and success.

The day following the place continued enveloped in one dense cloud of black smoke, which rose so thickly, that but seldom any part of the blazing ruins could be seen, though a strong easterly wind was blowing over them. Several tremendous explosions took place before noon, similar to what had been in the morning, and from the volumes of smoke ejected into the air, showers of blackened materials descended, which enveloped the shattered body of many an unfortunate mother and child. As the day declined, the explosions became more rare, and with the evening sun they appeared as if they were the last throes of a perishing city.

By this event the contest between the belligerents in Western Greece is now terminated, and the scene of four long years of protracted hostilities is wound up in the fall of Missolonghi. True to the character which this place has acquired with the world, from the powerful hosts which it has hitherto repulsed, and the famine and hardships endured by the garrison in four successive campaigns, this last act of the patriot Greeks was completed without the least compromise of that spirit which they professed and followed on other occasions, as at Parga* and Ipsara. With the downfall of their house and their hopes fell also the lives of many they held most dear, and, with the blaze of what were the funeral piles of their wives and children, they were lighted through the darkness of the night into the ranks of their assailants, to shed their blood dearly, or to cut their way to some precarious refuge.

There were about 11,000 souls in the place before it fell, and from several accounts afterwards, nearly 1800 made their escape in one way or another; the remainder, therefore, or above 9000, were forced into captivity, or perished by fire or the sword. The place, from being the abode of so many living beings, in twenty-four hours was reduced to a smouldering heap of ruins, testifying to the spectator the lamentable barbarity of the war as pursued by the modern Goths of the East, who are still encamped around its ashes.

However much the cause of humanity and Hellenic independence has suffered by this catastrophe, the antiquary has less to regret the ravages of war than upon other late occasions, as Missolonghi, except some old foundations of beautiful structure, contained neither sculptures nor inscriptions. The ancient name of the place is not known, nor that of the remains of a town, with its Acropolis and little theatre, which are situated in the environs, and which the Greeks call the Castle of St Irene.

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* 'The pirates of Parga that dwell by the waves.'—*Byron.*

Since the disembarkation of the Egyptian forces on the shores of Romelia, in the latter end of December, 1825, not less than 20,000 souls are computed to have been either slain in battle, butchered in cold blood, have sacrificed themselves, or been driven as wandering refugees from their homes. However it may justly have originated, such appears to be the general feeling of abhorrence to their late lords and their government, that, though aware of the inequality of their own power and resources, the Greeks will, in all probability, resist to utter extinction; and in thousands continue to immolate themselves, as they have repeatedly done, on the altars of their feelings and patriotism.

In a short time after the fall of Missolonghi, the Pasha of Romelia proceeded for Athens, and Ibrahim again transferred his operations towards the further reduction of the Morea. What a sad and desolate scene Greece soon must become; indeed, it is remarkably so already, for bloodshed and depopulation are making gigantic strides over its renowned and beautiful surface. Nowhere can now the eyes be turned without meeting with scenes at which the heart sickens. Crops are sown that never are reaped by the same, nor indeed by any hands; towns, villages, and huts exhibit one common feature of dilapidation and neglect. The aged, infirm, and the helpless youth are seen wandering about in all directions, and seeking refuge from the sword; while, unburied, the bones of the former combatants are seen blanching in the sun—the melancholy and perishing memorials of the contests gone by. It is a pity such a war is not ended, but it is to be hoped that the course of human events will soon bring its sanguinary career to a close, though under present circumstances, it is in vain for the Greeks to dream of the combined power and efforts of their forefathers, or that they alone will be able to shake off the sovereignty of the Ottoman by a deed of Salamis or a day like Marathon.

The physical strength of their adversaries at this period is such, that, if properly wielded, must overwhelm the nature of that force which is opposed to it, for at the reduction of Missolonghi, there were not less than 26,000 Turks and Egyptians between the fleet and the army. The fleet was composed of upwards of seventy sail of armed ships, well found, and no less than fifteen of these were frigates of a large class, mounted with long brass guns, as the most of their other ships are. Of the remainder a great proportion were corvettes, and heavy armed brigs and schooners. The Greeks have not only to contend against these principal means, but against resources to which theirs cannot be compared, while, however energetic their movements are, their efficiency cannot always be calculated upon, under the guidance of contingent circumstances, and the present crude state of their political affairs.

CHAPTER XXXIII

Calamos Island Refugees—Miseries of the Inhabitants.

IONIAN ISLANDS, PETALA, *27th April* 1826. — Refugees from the neighbouring environs had fled over to Petala, with their flocks and herds, to the number of about 1000, and have all shared in the advantages offered them by the Ionian government of taking refuge in Calamos, a small island dependent on Cephalonia, on which there are not less than 20,000 unfortunate people. Although Petala is attached to the Ionian Islands, and belonging to a convent on Cephalonia, it is an unsafe retreat from its contiguity to *terra firma.* The island is about six miles in circumference, high and rocky, covered with very little verdure or wood, and in few places susceptible of cultivation for anything save the Uva passa. Though rather high, hilly, and in general bold towards the shore, the land, from which it is only separated by a narrow canal, is quite of an opposite description, being low and a reedy marsh for many miles to the N.E., and in the direction of Missolonghi.

From the top of the island, this town can be seen with all the intervening country for sixteen miles, broken up into lake-ponds or isolated rocks. The lake was a great fishing-ground, and the people about this district seem to have been employed a good deal in it, from the number of little flat-bottomed boats, skiffs, and canoes. These last were perfect as those in America or the West Indies, hollowed out of trees, but were small, though of the same form. Some of them, belonging to the refugees, were remarkably rude, hollowed out of bent trunks and unshorn of the rough coat or protruberances they presented when first cut down.

The people, too, seemed no less rude, and, if possible, more so than the wild bandit of Maina. While dressed in such squalid clothes, which, without the dark capote, could hardly distinguish them as Greeks, and being squatted in the canoe with their paddle, they bore a greater resemblance to some savage Islanders or Indians, than to the Europeans of Greece. The huts they live in are like wigwams, made of twigs, or stakes and reeds, or dried rushes, and they had numbers constructed on this little island.

On walking over part of the place, after they had retired to Calamos, I was amused on seeing an oven which they had temporarily built, and which was curious, as well from its simple construction as its perfection. Twigs had been first bent in bows and stuck in the ground, forming a little vault, and then covered over with straw, on which again a thick coating of softened clay or earth was laid, which, after being allowed to harden externally in the sun and air, the interior was set fire to, which, while it removed all the wood, etc., that had been necessary for building it, heated the oven and at once made it ready for use.

I did not see a house on the island but one, and that was a little chapel in which was a picture of its tutelar saint. Before this time, however, it was uninhabited save by some herdsmen, who looked after the flocks, of which there seemed to have been a few. Numbers of the refugees must have evacuated fertile and wealthy farms, from the extensive flocks of sheep, goats, cattle, and horses they brought along with them. The sheep are small, resembling the Highland flocks. They sold their lambs for about three shillings and sixpence each, or a little less; the cattle were of course in bad order, and the horses, like all those to be seen in Greece, very small.

CHAPTER XXXIV

Athens, Fourth Visit—Greek Soldiers—March—Drill—Equipment—Acropolis—Ruins—Scenery.

PIRÆUS, ATHENS, 15*th May* 1826.—While last month I was witness to the last scene which for the present brought hostilities to a close in Western Greece, this one has afforded me an opportunity of seeing the state of part of the country on the east side, and again have I seen Athens and all its venerable ruins.

So far as the appearance of a country depends on season, Attica, I think, cannot be seen in a more favourable one than in the month of May. The crops of corn, with which the greater part of the unwooded portion of the plains are covered, are now beginning to be cut down, and all approaching through the progressive shades of the ripening ear to the rich tints of full maturity, give a beautiful variety to the surface, as well as expressive earnests of the fertility that produced them. Covered richly with these, the undulating lap of Hymettus is seen, from the basin of the gulf, reflecting a variety of pleasing shades, and from the chequered blue of the intervening waves deepened towards the beach, the eye is carried on through, first, continuous lines of golden yellow, then through patches of green and yellow, to the shrubby summit of the grey variegated hill, which fills up the cloudless horizon to the northward.

So far Attica seems what it was with its flowing crops and flowery hills, and nought seems wanting to fill up the fancied picture of the past but the presence of her busy navy. Long have these waters, however, ceased to be the tract of traffic and peaceful merchandise, and the coast is but enlivened with the solitary sail of the traveller, the pirate, or suspicious vagrant; while on nearing the roadstead of Phalerus the appearance of the Acropolis and its noble crest of ruins still proclaim that Athens is not *now* what it once was.

It was a little after sunrise as we entered the Piræus, but the reapers at that early hour were afield, and busily employed in cutting down the barley on the ancient site of the town; young and old were engaged at this occupation. The sickle resembles ours, but it was less actively used, and the ears alone were cut roughly off with very little of the straw, tied up in small sheaves or handfuls, and strewed out in the sun, while on the following day they were beating it out on the rocks by the beach with small billets of wood about 18 inches long. The straw seemed not to be cared for, and with the stubble, which, of course, was very long, was left to rot on the ground or be eaten afterwards by the cattle.

This rural scene, so close to the anchorage, was quite exhilarating to the spirits; not in a direct manner of impression only, but through the association it carried along with it, and from which I could scarcely fancy it a harvest scene in a May morning in Greece.

From this, however, my attention was soon drawn to objects of quite another description. The beach round the head of the harbour was crowded with people, who, from the glittering of arms seen among them, proved mostly to be soldiers and armed people of different descriptions. The fields in the rear, too, of the monastery, were covered with different parties of them, and their muskets piled up together. Some were stretched out on the ground, and others were amusing themselves in different ways. On visiting the shore, I was informed they were the troops principally under the command of Colonel Fabrier, and were on their route for Megara or Salamis, to wait the further orders of the leading men, or of circumstances. The scene was a perfectly military chaos, through which the outline of organisation could just be traced, and something seen like the transformation of the roving Greek into the tractable mechanism of a European soldier.

The costume of what were called regular troops seemed to preserve some uniformity; the scull-cup was supplanted by the proper military cap, the girdle by the cross belts, while the jacket and trousers more or less resembled the dress of the English or French. Many, however, were half that of a Frank and half that of a Greek soldier, exhibiting a strange and grotesque costume, while the irregular troops still retained their own or the Albanian dress with the belt, pistols, yatacan, etc., and were distinguished by a small white cross sewed on the right breast of their jackets.

Since their late attack on Carysto in the Negropont, they have suffered a good deal from sickness, and have at this time a great number still sick. Looking into the Monastery to visit some of our countrymen's graves, and the ancient marble chair, a number of the invalids were seen occupying the shade of the colonnade, the porch of the chapel, and other parts of the courtyard, some with a capote, straw, or other substitute for bedding, with fever still on them, others sitting in groups, or trying what little use of their limbs disease had left them. They seemed to be badly off for medicine and medical attendance, though at Athens I was told they had two surgeons with the body of the sick. The fever, from the description given me, was of the typhoid kind, and such as would naturally be developed under their late and present circumstances, from which the powers of life seldom assume too high a tone.

To-day they left the Piræus, both by land and sea, for the interior of the Eleusinian gulf. Besides the cavalry and lancers, of which there were about 200, those who marched were about 1500. They were formed into two regiments, each with a military band at its head, and colours flying in the centre; while the baggage and a few pieces of artillery closed up the rear. Their order of march was as good as could be expected, and as seen winding through the high rushes that skirt the bottom of the Piræus, and over the Thymetidea or ancient burying-ground of their forefathers, they formed rather a novel feature in the scene. Such a feature however, was the only one that gave it expression, and when combined with the other objects that filled up the environs, formed an interesting picture of past and present Athens.

The sun was going down behind Salamis as these troops left the place. To the northward, the Acropolis with its magnificent ruins was seen reflecting back the setting rays of light, and was beautifully thrown out by the dark shade of Mount Hymettus in the background, proclaiming at some six miles off the never-to-be-forgotten race who had built it. Nearer hand, the extinction of such a race was too well seen in the neglectedness of the port and the surrounding ruins, while the glittering of arms in the sun, and the white crosses waving in the breeze, showed the reviving energy of a spirit that long has slept in the bosom of ruin and decay.* To all which may be added, that for

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* 'Where are thy men of might, thy grand in soul?'—*Byron.*

Athens there still remains the former sun and soil, the fertility of which is now declared in the extensive fields of waving crops that cover the district.*

I spent one day in visiting, for a fourth time, the city, and two in strolling over the environs of the Piræus. The ride up through the plain was delightful, as it was seen in all its richest state. So luxuriant were the crops of corn and barley that the fences of the fields and enclosures could scarcely be traced; while the verdure of the pasture-ground, though past its early freshness, was still beautifully enamelled with a variety of gaudy wild flowers. As the troops were moving up and down from the city, the quietness of the road was occasionally broken in upon by the noise of several parties which we here and there encountered. Generally speaking, however, they respected the English costume; and though occasionally seen by us exercising little respect for either the property or person of the peasant and non-combatant, they dared not once offer us the least molestation.

Not having any person of authority to see us mounted or to procure horses for the party, we found that though horses were ready on our landing, they could not be brought to the beach by the peasants who owned them from fear of the soldiers, who, it appeared, seized on anything of that description when in need. Accordingly, we had to walk in the rear of the place about a mile, where horses were ready, and we started, after which our dress was a sufficient guarantee for the safety of the cattle.

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* 'The sun, the soil, but not the slave the same.'—*Byron.*

In the town little change seems to have taken place in its outward appearance since I last saw it, in 1824. The houses are certainly in somewhat better repair, and the bustle about the market-place and bazaars greater. The different ruins are, however, in *statu quo.* Plans have been laid for rebuilding, and that this may be done with some regularity, much of the modern dilapidation has been cleared away. Thus the Temple of the Winds can be seen from an open and distant space, which much improves its appearance. The interior of the Acropolis, too, is better cleared of its rubbish, and access is had to any of the ruins over a smoother level than before.

Among other things I saw those tanks of water, one of which contains an immense quantity, all of which has been carried up to the town. The well, which is only lately found out, appears to be a valuable resource. The descent to it is ancient and by numerous flights of steps, from the western and outer part of the Propyleum and second gate. It is questionable whether it affords a great supply, otherwise their tanks would not be so well and frequently filled.

General Gouras still commands, and has a number of men in his pay. He lives in the castle, and, as formerly, visits the town frequently, takes his seat on a bench in the market-place, or coffee-house porch, and seems the fellow-soldier among his men. The locandas are few and very bad, and an absence of twelve months makes it as difficult for a stranger to find out accommodation of any kind, as if he had never been here before, and no traveller ought to visit it without letters to the authorities. Cards, coffee, and tobacco seem still the order of the day with the Athenians; and without seeing any of the cracking mirth and drunken sallies inseparable from such idle meetings in England, old and young seem devoted to these pastimes which they quietly enjoy or kill time with, without betraying much, if any, happiness through a merry feature or other outward behaviour.

The quiet enjoyed by them since the war has been pushed in western Greece, seems to have affected the country more than the town; for not a spot on the plain is without a crop. From the top of the façade of the Parthenon the *coup d'œil* of the environs is rich beyond description, and bespeaks not only the great agricultural resources of the country, but much existing industry which a war of extermination has left. Looking over this beautiful plain in its present dress, the great extent of its ancient population is not to be wondered at; while if we consider what a dense population the soil of our own country now supports, how much greater might be that of a country where May is its harvest month, and where with the aid only of the ploughshare the fields flourish annually with abundance.

Notwithstanding this, so thinly planted are the houses or any description of dwelling, that over an extent of many miles the eye scarcely finds a roof to rest upon ; all is one continued sea of corn or verdant olive, from which the stranger is led to set down the want of houses to the insecurity as a dwelling, or else to the great inequality, or the feudal state of property. While the Turks maintained the superiority, its appearance could have been little other as to houses, for no remains are to be seen, and the land taken possession of by the wealthiest and most powerful of the Greeks remains no doubt chiefly in their hands, or in that of the government.

In Athens the population is still numerous, but that of the country is very trivial indeed, and now having the exigencies of a depopulating war to support, no stimulus for its population through trade, or the security of property is imparted. The Greeks must continue to fall in number, and by a protracted state of present circumstances finally be reduced to an unresisting handful on the face of their unfortunate country. The few who alone are preserved by the geographical peculiarities of the land, will naturally occupy the mountains, and find in that retreat an undisturbed independence which they always have done from remote ages, and under many successive sovereigns. Thus, whichever way the times go, the roving and unsubdued Maneote will still command his aerial abode on Mount Taggetus, as will do the numerous mountaineers of Arcadia, Pindus, and other elevated ridges in northern Greece.

As before, I spent the day with undiminished gratification in the town, and visiting the different scenes around it. Now that I have left them, and perhaps for ever, I find every recollection of them as vivid as before; and though I have repeatedly seen them, still I cannot associate the beautiful outline of their architecture with the modern and meaner objects that surround them. Such is the mighty contrast, that these latter are in memory quite obscured, and the various temples and groups of columns are not conjoined in the memory with their actual localities around, but seem the structures of an imaginative pencil, or the impressions from the pages of some descriptive romance which has just been perused.*

Of all the travellers' I think Clarke's account of Athens is fully the most satisfactory, even to the number of columns in the various buildings taken notice of; while his description of localities is excellent. On the Parthenon I again looked for the lines alleged by some writers to have been written by Lord Byron in deprecation of the spoliation of that building, but could not see them. The name of Elgin is certainly scratched out, and that of *Mary Elgin* left with the date 1806 about half way up one of the front columns.

* 'They won and passed away, is this the whole?'—*Byron.*

In walking over the environs of the Piræus, I saw the ancient place of sepulture; it is very extensive and occupies a rising ground on the vicinity of the south side of Port Zea. A number of tombs which have been excavated by the curious or avaricious are there open, or refilled with wild weeds and rubbish. In some the stucco is still perfect and white. They are superficially covered by very large oblong slabs of the native stone, and are principally dug out of the solid rock, which forms the substratum of this part.

CHAPTER XXXV

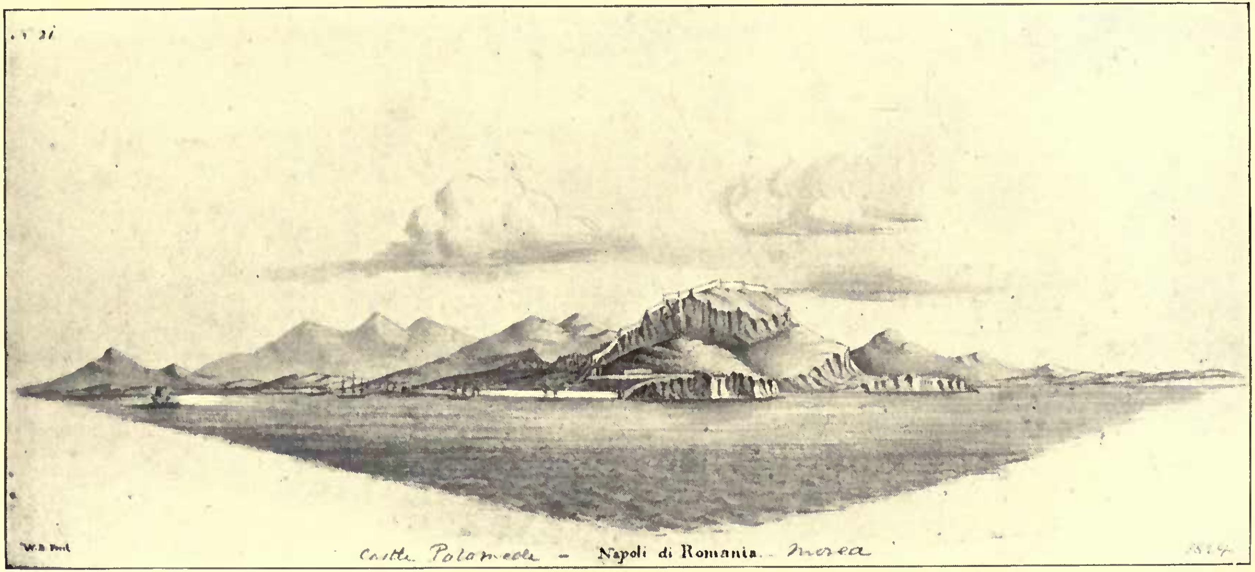
Greek Army—Provisions—Adventurers at Napoli di Romania—Colcotroni—Greek Orator—Missolonghi Refugees.

Napoli di Romania, Gulf of Nauplia, Morea, 21*st May* 1826.—This place being for the present the seat of the provisional government, and the focus of all that is agitated in Greece, presents quite a busy and anxious scene. The Egyptians are moving towards Tripolizza and the Argolis; all are therefore under arms, and the streets of Napoli are crowded to excess with kirtled soldiery. As to physical appearance, a finer mass of effective people could hardly be conceived, which their warlike and manly dress sets off to great advantage. Unlike the exhausted corps of Colonel Fabvier seen the other day at Athens, the Greeks now here are all fresh and vigorous in looks and limbs; and if only disciplined, are well fitted to open a campaign as men possibly can be.

General Colcotroni is at Argos with several thousands of his troops, ready to march for the interior of Arcadia or any other direction. Parties are daily leaving the town to join him or his son. Non-combatants and families are arriving, all of which give an air of interest to this place, such as no other now in Greece exhibits. It is said that there are not less at present than 20,000 people in Napoli, and that a considerable increase has taken place is evident from the crowded state of the streets, piazzas, cafés, and markets. While outside the walls there are hundreds of families, many of whom from their dress and appearance seem respectable, living in little straw or rush huts temporarily erected to screen them from the effects of the sun and weather.

The rations of the troops in the pay of Government are very poor, and consist chiefly of rice and bread. The markets, however, seem stocked with plenty of provisions, mutton, lamb, bread, and all kinds of vegetables are cheaper than among the Ionian Islands about 50 per cent. The locundas and cafés are greatly improved since I was last here; they are much crowded, yet the attendance is very good, and the charges for refreshments comparatively trifling. Money is a valuable commodity, and particularly English and Spanish coins; for, although they issue the Turkish para and other moneys in exchange, they seem studiously to avoid receiving them back in payment, from which it would appear they wish to be rid of the Turkish currency altogether, now that their dependence is on European countries.

Looking into the history of many employed in the service of the Greeks, there are men of almost every


W.B. Del
Castle Palamede – Napoli di Romania. Morea

NAPOLI DI ROMANIA.

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shade of character to be found, and from various countries. One young man made himself known to me, while taking some refreshment in a cafeteria. He was in the Albanian dress, appeared to be about twenty-one years of age, and had then lately left the British Navy and joined the Greeks. Up to that time he had received nothing from the government, not even arms, but as he was about to join Prince Mavrocordato he had just received an order to be supplied with the necessary accoutrements. His situation appeared forlorn and desperate, for, deserted by his friends from some cause which he did not reveal, his only hopes seemed to be directed towards reaping something by plunder among the Turks, the acquisition of the Romaic tongue, or uncertain advancement. Officers of inferior rank do not seem to be in request, or indeed of any rank, except very extraordinary characters, without they are possessed of considerable property.

The arrival of Lord Cochrane seems to be looked for by the people with as much anxiety, as the promised appearance of the Messiah created amongst the Israelites; and to this day they deplore the death of our late great poet who breathed his last among them at Missolonghi.*

The mass of the military seem a crude junction of numerous Capitani with their followers, among whom Colcotroni is remarkably popular. The fervency of their attachment to their chiefs and to each other is daily evidenced in their behaviour at this place. I frequently saw the present military governor of the town, who is a very old man, walking about the place. His train was generally composed of about 100 men, who paced slowly around him, watching every look and expression of his countenance, not as mercenary soldiers their commanding officer, but as a large family their aged and beloved father; and the most exact order, regularity, and quietness, attended all their motions. Frequently he sat down and conversed easily with those around him, wholly divested of the semblance of Ottoman hauteur. Being in the Albanian dress, he and his followers looked very well on entering the market-place, for with the picturesque dress there appeared much good order and good fellowship among them. This last, however, appears a prevailing virtue among them, and I am led to attribute its existence in some measure to that feeling of the majority of self-defence, mutual support and dependence, which their doubtful and insecure situation has generated.

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* Byron died 19th April, 1824.

I was a little astonished, in such a mass of armed and for the present idle people, to see so little disorder and disturbance; hundreds were moving past each other, conversing, playing at cards, etc., yet not a symptom of riot was observable, nor a single person intoxicated. In the *Piazza Grande*, I was amused with the exhibition the man was making of his oratorical powers to an assembled crowd. He was armed and rather fantastically dressed, and held an unsheathed sabre in his right hand. He was preaching in Greek, but on inquiry, I found that he was an Ionian who had contributed his mite towards the war, and having expended his all, he now assumed the character of a lunatic, that he might tell them all their faults and urge them on to the contest. I could not but remark how this mob of armed people, amongst whom so little stability of law and government existed, differed from a mob in a civilised country. They assembled, listened, and dispersed without the least sign of mischievous or noisy excitement.

While walking about the square, the corps of the only few regulars the Government can boast of, entered under arms with drums and fife playing; they formed and dismissed to their respective guards in a tolerable state of discipline. They had all English or French arms, with bayonets, and were commanded by a Greek, but had for an adjutant an Italian of middle age. The place is also filled with arms of all descriptions and ammunition, which present themselves to your notice in the windows of numerous shops throughout the street. The town altogether seems much improved since I saw it in February 1824, and every article is cheap, particularly all sorts of provisions, such as mutton, bread, wine and vegetables.

In the harbour are a good many vessels, Greek, Ionian, and Austrian. These latter are mostly prizes to the fleet, or detained, while many others having disposed of their cargoes, are afraid to sail without convoy, such is now the distrust which traders have in these seas, from so many secret piracies, and the numerous adventures this long protracted and impoverishing contest has drawn from an honest trade or a humble competency.

A number of the brave Missolonghites have arrived here, from whom authentic information is had of the fall of that place.* Eighteen hundred altogether got through the Turkish lines and have all succeeded in reaching this and other places in the Morea. Still, every one of them may be picked out among the crowds in the place, so haggard are their looks compared with the other Greeks, and they are still clothed in their old rusty dresses. As to the detail before mentioned, it exactly accords with their account, and the dreadful fate of the helpless women is too true. These refugees as well as all the Greeks I have heard talk of the affair, while they deplore the loss of their families, rejoice that they *died gloriously* (to use their own expression) and when told that hopes had been entertained of saving their lives by capitulation, said they were glad the terms were not accepted, as it would have dishonoured that cause in which they had embarked, and for which they were yet resolved to make, if necessary, many similar sacrifices.

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* Missolonghi taken by the Turks, 23rd April, 1826.

CHAPTER XXXVI

Egean Sea—Ruins, Ipsara Island.

OFF IPSARA ISLAND, ARCHIPELAGO, WEST OF SCIO ISLAND, *July* 1826.—A little before 9 A.M., a good view of the town of Ipsara was afforded us as the *Chanticleer* passed close to it and the rocky shores of its little isle. Opening to the S.E., the morning sun shone broad on its little harbour, and his light was seen reflected from the white mass of houses forming the town at its bottom. With the exception of the different windmills seen unroofed, the stranger to its history, passing as we were, would from appearance little imagine what had lately befallen the place, or be aware of its present circumstances, for in the distance the traces of destruction could scarcely be discerned with the naked eye.

Taking up the glass, however, and bringing the vision more immediately in contact with the scene, a more expressive one of desertedness could hardly be conceived. Not a soul could be seen on the landing-place or beach, nor an animal of any description about the place. Not a single mast was there, nor even the semblance of a boat, when but a little time ago their number indicated the industry and activity of its little community. Deformed by marks of fire, the lines of streets, storehouses and other buildings all stand tenantless and solitary, testifying to the sad and depopulating effects of the contest that wrought the destruction of the place.

The little detached fort in which the last handful of these unfortunate islanders so long held out, and from which they afterwards blew themselves up, was seen in the same state of ruin and dilapidation such a catastrophe had left it; and on all the little buttresses that had been erected on the cliffs and other commanding eminences, where the white cross was lately displayed, not even a flag was to be seen proclaiming who were the conquerors. Once destroyed, the native islet of the Ipsariot has been left to its solitude and gloom, as the den of the wild beast would be by the hunter. The indweller being slain, his abode is nothing valued, but on the contrary is looked on as of too precarious a description; and where the future vengeance of the race might be sooner or later satiated. This accordingly did happen, for a short time after its capture and destruction the banished and wandering remains of these islanders with their brethren made a descent and cut off the whole of the garrison that had been left in it by their enemies.

How long it will remain in this state no one knows, and it may continue throughout the rest of the struggle, to be nothing but an occasional retreat for the pirate. One of the mysticas in which these adventurers cruise was destroyed here by one of our ships of war the other day, together with the greater part of the crew, who occupied a house to protect their boat with musketry, and in its defence miserably perished.

Ipsara is but a barren island and exhibited previous to its destruction few marks of cultivation, being hilly, full of rocks, and covered with little soil. The port is good and well fitted for a mercantile people ; its outer anchorages are open to the southward, but further in it is well sheltered.

APPENDIX

CLIMATE, MEDITERRANEAN

WITH TABLES

APPENDIX

CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEAS, 1822-1827

Being the result of Five Years Observations by the late W. Black, *Surgeon,* H.M.S. 'Chanticleer,' R.N.

1. General

The great basin of the Mediterranean Sea, lying between countries, differing so remarkably in their several localities, atmospheres, and productions, naturally impresses on its general climate a mixed character, which is as interesting to study as it is important to analyse. Though the average of the climate for twelve months may confirm the character for equality which it gets in England, yet there is perhaps no similar extent of sea and coast where climatorial vicissitudes to the same extent are affected by difference of situation and changes of winds.

The father of Meteorology (Hippocrates) as well as Physic, in his treatise on Air, Water, and Localities, has faithfully remarked the influence of winds, and situation on the constitution of the atmosphere.

From every observation which I have been enabled to make, it appears, amid the wrecks and changes, which the face of every country on the shores of this sea have experienced, that the same characteristic climate, general and particular, exists as it did upwards of twenty-two centuries ago. The observations of Hippocrates may yet be considered the best guide in this part of its meteorological characteristics. Equable as the general climate is, yet if one period is compared with another, or one part even with another of the same day, the atmospheric vicissitude is very considerable, and as particularly as respects the humidity of the air.

Such changes are most sensibly felt on the coasts of Europe, and on the south shores of Greece and Turkey in Asia ; and it is on a line equally distant from Africa and Europe that such varying states of the atmosphere become least perceptibly observed.

Malta is therefore thought to be a residence the most out of the sphere of this vicissitude, though a great change of wind at this place is attended with sensible changes in the constitution of the atmosphere ; and it is by no means that desirable place for an invalid which it is thought to be.

A moist or damp atmosphere is certainly to be avoided ; and that of England is so much blamed in this respect, as to be accounted one of the chief causes of the great proportion of pulmonary complaints prevalent in the kingdom. The moisture of the English atmosphere, under the influence of some localities, is perhaps less than it is at Malta; and we know that Humboldt has proved, by hydrometrical observations, the superior humidity of the tropical or southern latitudes. People who generally resort to Malta and Italy are of relaxed fibre of body; and one argument against the salubrity of the last-mentioned place for such persons is that, in removing from England, they avoid little, if any, atmospherical humidity,—added to which objection, they remove to an increased temperature, which must still further increase the relaxing effect derived from humidity.

In corroboration of this, we see every day people, who by chronic disease have been reduced to an enfeebled and relaxed state of body, sent from the Mediterranean to England with the happiest effects; while it is an established rule in the fleet to remove every one from the climate immediately on their betraying any symptoms of phthisis.

I have also seen cases of chronic and syphilitic rheumatism particularly reaping the greatest benefit from a return to England from the Mediterranean.

Though the extensive surface of this midland sea, lying between the 45° and 31° of N. latitude, and embracing 40° of longitude, has an average climate, constituted of the regular succession of seasons, like all other geographical surfaces which have a marked summer and winter, yet the several places in, and bordering on, its ample circuit have each a climate peculiar to themselves.

The peculiarities are compounded of the general constitution of the Mediterranean climate at any given season of the year, and also of the collateral influences of the winds prevailing at the time, or for the season. The nature of the land which surrounds the place, and over which these winds blow, and whether the sea, and what extent of it lies in the course of the winds, and also whether the place is situated on the north or south shore of the mainland or island must be considered.

Before, however, noticing the particular topography of the climate, I shall consider first its general constitution under the four great modifying, if not elementary, principles of heat or temperature, humidity, electricity and the winds.

2. Heat or Temperature.

It will be seen from the table annexed that the average temperature of the year at noon is considerably above that of the warmest parts of England, being for three years very near 67°, and from the thermometer being registered always on board in any situation, it may be justly inferred that the average temperature on land is some few degrees higher.

Equable and mild as this annual heat is, yet the changes from day to day, or from morning to night, are sometimes equal to any range of the thermometer, which takes place in England in the same time.

The average heat for the summers of three years never exceeded 81° nor fell below 74° for the season, nor in the winter months descended below 54·6°, which is 2° above the mean annual temperature at Gosport, as observed by D. Burney.

Even this lowness of temperature in February 1824 was greatly attributed to the strong northerly winds prevailing for ten days at Smyrna, and the average for the two other years in the same season is nearly 2° higher, which I should take to be near the average temperature of the two other years, wherein my daily register was not kept.

The highest degree observed at noon was 86°, which was off Algiers in the month of August 1824, and the lowest was 41° at Smyrna, at 8. P.M., in January 1827.

The range of the temperature of the summer months never exceeded 11°, while that of the other months often was as much as 25° on board ship.

For three months after the summer solstice the heat on board was generally steady above 76°; and when the winds at this season are scanty, the heat is sometimes above 90° on shore; after the winter solstice, when the snow falls, the thermometer falls much, but the weather is very seldom clear and settled; as the temperature is still not so low as to part with its constituent humidity.

Besides the characteristic temperature of the season, the heat at any place, moreover, greatly is affected by the winds at the time; thus, the westerly will not disturb the regular increase or decrease for the season, and the east but little, while the winds from the north before the melting of the snows on the Apennine Range and the chain of Pindus

Mountains in May and June will lower the temperature of the air many degrees.

On the south coasts of Italy, and of the Morea, the S. and S.E. winds will on the other hand elevate the temperature remarkably, especially if they have blown steadily for a few days, and not over a greatly intervening extent of sea, which would tend to reduce the heat that might have been in the winds previously. The effect of warm winds succeeding immediately on those from the north, or a cold quarter, has often been observed to be productive of severe catarrhs; and to elicit these effects it seems necessary that the warm and moist winds should be preceded by the cold ones.

This is somewhat analogous to the circumstance of individuals catching cold or catarrh, not from being exposed to cold alone, but from coming into a warm room immediately after exposure to cold air, for the higher the temperature the greater the capacity of the air for moisture; and were it not that the great heats of summer exhaust the sources of humidity, the atmosphere would be felt the moister by having the greater heat.

We should also have the heaviest dews at night, but the reverberation from the heated surface of the land often keeps the vapour suspended through the night, though clouds may be accreted in the higher regions of the atmosphere.

3. HUMIDITY

The hygrometrical condition of the atmosphere is an important object of attention in any climate, and it exerts a great modifying influence on that of the Mediterranean. This state of the air is affected very much by the different directions of the winds, as well as by the temperature at the time. It also observes nearly the corresponding variation with the temperature being generally in its sensible quality drier, as the air is warmer, and moister, as it is cooler. There is one exception, however, to this concomitancy, that as long as the current of air is over an extent of sea, it is moist whether in summer or winter; though, it must also be added, that the Sirocco, if felt moist at first, on the northern shores of the Mediterranean, becomes drier if it continues for some days, and will sometimes arrive there in all that arid state, which is experienced on the coasts of Barbary and Egypt. Winds off the land, if it is not marshy, are dry in summer, and they are what are called moist, and steadily so, if they blow from snowy surfaces in the advanced part of the cold season. They, therefore, are moist from moist places in winter, under many changes of the wind, and vary very little in their sensible hygrometrical conditions, though the capacity for moisture must vary, *cateris paribus*, with every change of temperature.

Thus at Modon, in the south of the Morea, the humidity is much influenced in summer by the prevailing winds; after the snow has melted on Mounts Pindus, Olympus, and the nearer Taygetus, the land winds are dry, and the S. winds are moist.

If they have blown for a length of time, they become drier, especially if they are of the Sirocco, and even if they have blown long over the surface of the sea in any direction, for it appears that the longer winds blow over the sea, if it does not get agitated, the evaporation becomes less. It is much greater after rains or heavy dews, which seem to form a thin stratum of fresh water on the surface, ready to be evaporated on the first increase of the hygrometrical capacity.

At Lepanto and Patrasso the variations in the humidity of the atmosphere are very trifling, from the winds sweeping overland in most directions, which influences the proximate effect of their previous moisture.

Many other examples illustrate the effect that surfaces, over which the winds blew, leave on the humidity of the atmosphere. Thus I have found in coasting round the Morea in summer, when the wind was from a great extent of sea, that the air was always damp. Off Lavarno it was extremely so, when it blew from any other point but over the land of the Morea.

In the course of a voyage the same winds will be felt changing their hygrometrical condition as the localities change over which they travel. Off Lavarno a N.W. wind will be moist, while under the lee of Zante it will be found dry.

In running north from Cape Angelo or Malea to the D'Oro passage, a northerly wind has been dry, with all the arid and bare Cyclades to windward, while after getting through the passage the same wind has been found excessively damp, and continued so until the Gulf of Smyrna has been made, when it again becomes dry from blowing over Mitylene before reaching the place, after having traversed previously an unknown extent of *terra firma.* Temperature depends not so much on surrounding localities as on the season, while humidity depends more on the surface over which wind blows than on the season.

Even in the latter part of summer, when the land becomes a great reverberator of heat, especially after the decay of its verdant vegetation, the temperature suffers no great change from a change of wind, yet its aqueous condition will be much influenced.

In calculating, then, on the dryness or moisture of the air, the point of the compass is not so much to be considered as the surface, land or sea, over which the wind blows, and the extent of that surface with its intervening localities, if any exist.

At Malta I have observed the hygrometer to stand the highest with the wind from the N. in August and July, and the lowest with a wind ranging from S. to E.; the superior hygrometrical state of the former resulting from the winds previously blowing over high land and a great extent of water; the decrease in those of the south easterly winds, from their arriving from the dry and parched surface of Africa.

From the Meteorological Table, it will be seen that the proportion of fair weather is much greater than it is in Britain, and that the rainy and showery days, which were registered rainy when rain fell even for a few hours, and showery if one shower happened in the twenty-four hours, do not amount to six weeks annually in the average of three years.

It must be added, however, that the rains when they do fall are generally very heavy, and that the dews in fine, unclouded weather are very copious.

4. WINDS

The prevailing winds from the observations of five years are from the northward, and particularly when the weather assumes a steady constitution, and the summer season fairly sets in.

In the winter the winds do not appear to blow generally from any one quarter of the compass; but veer very much between the N.E. and S.

In the fair weather of summer variable and light winds most prevail, and in winter they are less frequent.

Often when the country in Greece is covered with snow, if the winds blow from any direction more than another, it is from the S. and S.E. in the beginning of the cold season; but when the snow is again dissolving in the spring, the vicissitudes of both wind and heat are very great.

The Sirocco at this period, though it seldom blows long at a time, is not so warm as in the beginning of winter, and differs very little from a moderate breeze from any other point; in consequence of its blowing long enough to bring along with it the milder temperature of the south, and therefore is moist, cold, and relaxing.

The greatest number of cases of fever which I have witnessed in the fleet followed the prevalence of S., S.E., or light variable winds, in May and June, at Corfu; while in October of the same year, when diarrhœa prevailed at Malta, the winds were northerly.

At Napoli di Romania I found cynanche and other affections of the mucous membranes particularly appear after keen northerly winds, with a clear sky, and preceded by occasional light Sirocco winds.

To show how much localities affect the temperature of the winds in opposition to the regular effect of the seasons, I have found the N. wind off the coast of Calabria to be hot and dry in the latter end of September, while the wind next day from the S.E., S., and S.W. was exceptionally damp, and accompanied with a cloudy sky.

This anomaly arose from the small quantity of rain which had yet fallen in Italy not being sufficient to cool the surface of the land, or rob it of that heat which it had acquired in the summer, while on the other hand this usually hot and dry wind had acquired much humidity from the sea before it was repelled by the succeeding southerly currents.

The Sirocco or S.E. wind is an important one in any part of the Mediterranean, and different opinions have been stated as to its dryness and moisture. The fact is, that these qualities are entirely governed by the surfaces over which it blows before reaching the place of observation.

Thus it is moist and warm as felt on the coasts of Greece and Italy, because its exalted temperature imbibes much vapour from the sea after it leaves the northern shores of Africa, where it is hot and dry.

Nowhere can such a wind be felt in the interior of Europe or to the northward; for, as the wind is always modified by the surface over which it passes, nowhere is there in Europe such a country as the Lybian and Arabian deserts, so flat, so dry, and so little capable of imparting to its winds anything like the electric condition of the earth and the atmosphere of other places.

5. Electricity

This is a modifying element in the constitution of every climate, and though less appreciated than heat and humidity, it no doubt performs a most important part in all atmospheric changes; if it is not an essential agent, or co-efficient in every modification of cloud, dew, and vapour.

The influences of heat and humidity are much more easily defined than that of electricity; and though the operation of the latter may be, and is, continued, yet it is only from its great and palpable phenomena, that we are yet enabled to draw any satisfactory induction.

Evaporation was long ago thought to be a fertile source of electricity, and Pouillet lately proved the opinion of Volta to be well founded; as well as chemical, and vegetable change is accompanied with electrical disturbance.

Of the grand phenomena of this subtle yet mighty agent, the Mediterranean every year exhibits many conspicuous examples; but it is principally when the summer constitution of the weather breaks up, that these are most influential and observable.

During the winter and spring months thunder and lightning do not often occur, but I have never observed the season to change where the decrement of temperature is beginning to take place, without more or less of electrical phenomena, and often to a frequent and great extent.

In the months of August or September, when the temperature begins to fall, and the winds have blown from the W., or from any great extent of sea, for some days previously the atmosphere to leeward becomes obscured with irregularly formed clouds, the wind abates or changes, and during the evening and night successive evolutions of electricity are then seen on the upper part of the newly deposited clouds, which are precipitated one after another from the muddled and misty atmosphere above.

Rains next succeed without thunder, and in twenty-four hours the wind will change to the northward, with a clear sky, fine weather, and a permanent fall of the thermometer.

If these phenomena are witnessed on the coasts of

Italy or Greece, the deposition of clouds takes place over the high lands, and the electrical transition is accompanied with thunder and the forked lightning—often exhibiting the sublimest instance of elemental commotion.

Cumuli of clouds, aggregated in this manner over the direction of the land, led me to infer that the vapours of the atmosphere, being then supplied with the electric or gravitating fluid from the high land or hills, assume in consequence the visible form of clouds, and remain suspended, and receiving fresh accumulations.

I always remarked the development of electric light from the upper outline of such cumuli ; where the invisible humidity of the atmosphere becomes embodied into clouds, which successively impart to the stratum of humid air immediately above a fresh charge of electric light, and accompanied with much evolution of caloric from the vapour becoming condensed, and so parting with its latent or constituent heat.

The preliminary conditions for such phenomena is a wind from the sea, or from the South. Such winds as the Sirocco are attended with imperfectly formed clouds, or a hazy atmosphere ; and, in consequence, I have often seen a change of wind to the S. and E. from the northward completely dissolve the regular clouds and render the sky muddled and hazy.

These S.E. or S. winds are generally found to blow for some time before these remarkable electric disturbances take place, which more particularly happen if such winds have been preceded by northerly winds, or winds from off the land. The reason of such phenomena not occurring at once on a change to the southward seems, because the first of the southerly wind is not in a negative state of electricity, or in an opposite condition to that of the atmosphere to which it arrives. It was only that body of the air, which had been lately blown from the opposite or northerly quarter, and which must precede the true current of the south with its characteristic warmth. It is for this reason that we often find a cold southerly or south-easterly wind at sea, when no localities could have immediately influenced the temperature, such as off Malta or Cape Spartivento.

If this southerly blows long it ought to get dry, which it actually does.

On the same principle, also, the longer a Sirocco prevails the drier it becomes; and in the vicinity of such elevated lands as the Albanian ridge of mountains, this partial change to warmth with moisture in the Sirocco or S. wind may be looked on as indicative of a thunder-storm, the lesser electric phenomena and refall of rain with change of winds. Besides the humidity and heat, which form the great difference between winds proceeding from the opposite points of N. and S., there is something else connected with the air and superficies, over which its currents traverse, that affects the animal system in that remarkable manner witnessed during a Sirocco, or southerly wind.

On a change taking place to this direction, the inhabitants of a place, and those people who have lived for a short time in it, sensibly experience a relaxation and languor of both the physical and mental energies, while diseases depending on laxity of fibre or emunctory become then aggravated. Thus, dyspeptic complaints, chronic catarrh, and cynanche make no progress towards recovery; and if the Sirocco blows immediately succeeding a cool northerly breeze, it often proves the cause of developing such diseases.

What this depressing something is, it may at present be premature to dogmatise about; there is an era, however, to which Medical Science is fast hastening, when this will no doubt be accounted for, and much to the advantage of humanity, since the progress which all the auxiliary sciences are making point out such a consummation to us.

As far back as 1770 it was conjectured by Brydon, the tourist, that what has since been called the nervous energy must be analogous to the electric fluid, and that the nerves seemed suited for the conduction of both; illustrating his theory by the effects produced on the system by the Sirocco, or winds either partially or wholly deficient of their natural electricity.

By the researches of Abernethy, Phillips, Le Gallois, and Bichat of our times, this conjecture has been much supported, so far as the analogy between the nervous energy and the galvanic fluid is concerned.

It is well ascertained, that in damp and hazy weather none of the electric fluid can be collected, and that the air of the Sirocco must be very deficient in electrical impregnation from sweeping over a dry and flat desert, while the moisture which it acquires in its passage over the sea must give it a strong absorbing conducting power for electricity.

The consequence is that this wind coming in contact with bodies possessed of more electricity, will rob them of part of their electric fluid, until equilibrium is effected between the earth and the air, which is the grand final cause of all electrical phenomena.

Now as the human body parts with, and receives electricity, and as an object in contact with the earth, at least must be a good point of transmission for the fluid, it cannot be supposed to be exempt from the general influences of such electrical changes when such winds prevail and must lose a part of its constituent fluid—which exit is followed by all those symptoms of depressed energy already noticed.

By the atmosphere, then, the body may be deprived in a series of degrees, of that energy, which, if it is not the product of the living functions, is at least the natural position of electricity which the body possesses in common with surrounding objects at the time. And life may even be extinguished from the highest operation of this cause, as happens during a thunder-storm, when no marks of physical injury can be detected.

On the other hand, when the atmosphere of any place is in minus state of constituent fluid, of which deficiency the surface of every animal therein situated must participate, a revival of every faculty is observed to follow the change to a cool northern breeze, which, sweeping over the high lands of the continent, must receive from them an equable charge of electrical impregnation.

The different electric states of the different winds are pretty well ascertained by stationary electrometers; and though I had none regularly in my possession, I found natural phenomena themselves to afford both excellent and beautiful proofs of this quality of the several winds.

The summer of 1825 offered very satisfactory illustrations of the important part that this subtle fluid plays in meteorologic phenomena, specially where the constitution of the cloudless summer sky began to be deranged.

As this change obtained on the coast of Albania and Greece, it commenced by N.E. winds getting stronger and varying more about from one point to another, with corresponding variations of temperature.

6. Thunder-Storms

A calm with faint breezes succeeded, which, while dying away, was followed by a thick atmosphere at sunset, lightning over the Morea, and rain, after which it cleared up and a N.W. wind prevailed.

A few days afterwards, while off the Bay of Pévesa the wind fell, the atmosphere thickened, and the wind again sprung up from the S.E., light at first, but freshened through the night.

About sunrise, being inside the Corfu Channel, one of the most terrific thunder-storms commenced that can be imagined, which, after floods of rain lasting at intervals for several hours, terminated by a sudden change of wind to the northward, and soon afterwards a clean, cool atmosphere succeeded for some days with the wind from the N.W.

Though more or less varied, the seasons, as I have said before, always break up in the above manner, and subside into a cooler temperature.

The changes of wind may be occasioned, either by the surface of the land at this season losing its verdure, or the dropping of the foliage becoming a greater reverberator of the solar heat, and so rarefying greatly the superincumbent stratum of air, by which the cooler current from the sea is elicited.

It is pretty evident that the phenomena described as attending such change, result proximately from the collision of clouds or strata of vapour differently electrified as to each other; or from the electric constitution of the clouds exhibited by a relative minus or plus state as respects the subjacent land and mountains.

For the better understanding of what takes place during such electric collision, it is necessary to consider which respective body of clouds, or whether it is the bright land, or the atmospheric stratum impinged against it by the Sirocco or S. wind, that gives or receives electricity during the restoration of the equilibrium which ensues.

The experiments which have proved the negative electric state of the Sirocco are highly corroborated by the following consideration.

In the first place, the earth is the centre and source of electricity as well as of gravitation, and over which the former fluid must be nearly equally distributed as the other.

It is not probable that any of the prominent parts of the earth can ever be long in a minus state compared with the incumbent atmosphere, if it is not in much motion.

Although remaining in its natural electric state, the earth may present in certain places points of attraction for the discharge of any clouds or vapour passing over them, and loaded positively with electric fluid.

The winds from the sea and the southward seem, however, not to contain sufficient electric fluid for to balance that of the land which they meet in with in the north shores of the Mediterranean, or that of those winds which blow from an extent of hilly land to the northward. For these S. winds travel over a surface of water, from which they can derive little electric impregnation; while they become charged with much humidity, that renders them still more susceptible of receiving electricity, wherever it is presented a comparatively positive condition.

In tracing these winds to the S. and S.E., they are found traversing boundless plains, hot, sandy and arid, from which no electric fluid can be extracted by them; nor can they be held to contain more than keeps their constituent gases together, for the less moisture in the air or any non-conducting body, the less is it qualified to be a conductor.

In traversing the intermediate sea, these dry southerly currents become charged with humidity, which from want of electric fluid never gets embodied into regular clouds; but the atmosphere looks thick, hazy, and muddled, the sudden appearance of which during a northerly breeze is always a sure indication of a change in a short time to the southward, arriving at the coasts of Italy and Greece. Their coming in contact there with the elevated mountains, these currents of vapour assume the form of embodied clouds, and, collecting, exhibit the transmission of electric fluid to the succeeding currents of humid air.

These suddenly condensing often into rain, rapidly increase the south easterly influx towards the same points, and create such a mass of negative atmosphere around them, that all the grander phenomena of thunder, lightning, and torrents of rain, are developed.

Besides this illustrative proof of the relative electric charge of the two opposite winds above mentioned, analogous phenomena are sometimes observed at sea, and out of the influence of the land, where I have often remarked the development of electric phenomena to be followed or accompanied with a change of wind from the southward to northward.

A wind, therefore, blowing from the northern shores of the Mediterranean may be in perfect equilibrium with the land it leaves, yet when it encounters the southerly current at sea, will be in relatively a positive state.

The consequence of this collision will be a transference of electric fluid from the northerly to the southerly current, and according to the difference of extent of the electric between them will be the extent of the above resulting phenomena. From the observations of five years, those changes nearly exhibit the same appearance; and I have always found that when electric phenomena appeared, a change of wind from the N. to the S., or from opposite points near to them, invariably occurred.

One difference may be noticed in the character of these phenomena, that when they were developed in the vicinity of high land, thunder accompanied them; but when at sea it seldom or never was present.

The transfer of electric fluid in this last situation appearing to take place in a more gradual and less violent manner than where the peaks of land facilitate a more intense transmission of the fluid.

As a general observation in the meteorology of the Mediterranean, it may be stated that winds or currents of vapour of some duration from an extent of sea, southerly, are negatively charged with electricity, and those from the land, northerly, and especially from hilly countries, are relatively in a positive state.

7. LOCALITIES

During the period in which observations have been made in the Archipelago and among the Ionian Islands, abundance of opportunities have presented themselves of witnessing the effects of localities on the temperature and humidity of the winds, even when continuing to blow from the same quarter of the horizon, as well as of observing how particular localities are affected by the nature and direction of the winds, and the atmospherical impregnations which prevail at the time.

These opportunities have resulted from being often one day to the north of land, and next day to the south of it; at another day with a great scope of sea, and the following one with an extent of land in the direction of the wind; while frequent visits to different places and anchorages in different seasons of the years have enabled me to form some personal observations on their particular climates.

I shall therefore conclude this sketch by climatorial notices of such places as may be more particularly visited by the traveller, or to commanders of vessels of war or commerce, reserving to a future opportunity a fuller detail of this department of topography.

8. ZANTE

Of all the anchorages in the Ionian Seas, that of Zante Roads seems to be the most eligible, as the moisture and relaxing qualities of the Sirocco are there greatly qualified by the wind first passing the east end of the island.

There is also no great extent of land or sea in the immediate contiguity of the port, from which circumstance the shifting of the wind from one point to another is not attended with any sensible changes of heat or moisture, and except in the calms prevalent at night, which they seldom are, there is very little humidity or dew precipitated.

The breeze from the northward and north eastward is very frequent and refreshing: generally sets in early during the forenoon as the sea breeze, and subsides at night through the warm season of the year

9. St Maura

The next anchorage to that of the roads of Zante in point of healthiness in the hot season of the year is the south anchorage of this island, which, from being bounded by the high land of the island on the west, and by that of the Acarnanian hills to the eastward, has the wind from these opposite quarters dry; while the currents in the direction of the Meganisi channel, whether northward or southward, are more moist.

Even when the wind blows from the S. or S.E. it is moderate, and from the lands and islands, which lock in the anchorage, and are devoid of woods and sources of humidity, it is never very damp, nor by night is it pernicious.

The winds, however, more seldom blow from these last directions, than from the opposite points, whence they are cool, dry, and refreshing in the hot months.

In the direction of N. and N.E., there is much low land and even stagnant water, but such an extent of sea and dry land intervenes, that their influence is not much to be dreaded.

10. CEPHALONIA

Judging from the situation of the extensive harbour of this island, I should think it to be rather an unhealthy anchorage. The great height and extent of sunburnt surface on the one side, from which the wind in that direction comes as if from an oven. The low and short extent of land, over which the Sirocco has only to pass before reaching the port, and the great scope of sea over which the southerly winds immediately travel, constitute, however, some demerits worthy of consideration, and over-balance the other presumable advantages.

The stagnant head of the harbour beyond the long bridge must prove, besides, a source of effluvia, and of miasmatic air to the crews of those smaller classes of vessels which refit there, and carreen.

I have seen the first onset of the Sirocco on the harbour of Zante raise the thermometer 10° from pre-existing temperature.

The S.E. wind in passing over these islands of Zante or Cephalonia, is much increased in temperature and dryness in the summer season; and in the winter it is rendered colder, if not more moist.

These relaxing warmer S.E. winds very often produce severe catarrhs, especially if colder winds have previously prevailed.

11. Corfu

This is an anchorage where a good deal of fever occurs in the hot months; and I have there witnessed its prevalence for several years in summer.

In this season of the year, the winds are either light, or calms prevail; and at night the dews are generally very heavy.

When the winds do blow, it may easily be observed, that from the nature of the surrounding localities they will imbibe febrific miasmata.

To the north-west, and in the line of the greatest extent of the island, there is a great deal of wood, many ponds of stagnant water, and marshes, the emanations from which in hot weather must give a deleterious influence to the winds passing over them.

This is also the direction from which the land breeze in the night reaches the anchorage; and I have often perceived the same fetid smell accompanying the first of the evening breezes, which I have experienced in Fort Royal harbour at Messina, and off the Italian *fumaras*.

As to the *modus operandi* of these land breezes, impregnated with marsh vapour, it is difficult to say whether they act by suddenly checking the perspiration, from their being charged with humidity, of a low temperature, or by depressing or impairing the nervous energies, in the same manner, as the Sirocco.

It is, however, well known that fever is most often developed in the night time, or in the evening, when the energies of the body are most exhausted from labour and fatigue, and the excitement of a hot day. Its invasion, I have particularly remarked in this climate, is always declared by symptoms of exhaustion and depression, such as syncope, sudden failure of muscular strength, and disturbance of the reparative functions, in the expulsion upwards or downwards from the *primæ viæ*, of what the organs cannot digest or assimilate.

The adynamic state of the moving powers is observed in the pallor of the surface and the depressed state of the pulse.

During the summer, in which I have seen fever prevalent at this anchorage, by day light southerly and south-easterly winds occurred, and at night it was either calm with heavy dews, or else it was a land breeze possessed of the qualities above mentioned.

The other localities of Corfu, if not so unfavourable, possesses no entire exceptions from the unhealthy impregnations,which they impart to the winds arriving at the anchorage of the Capital.

From the eastward there cannot be any cool sea breeze by day in the summer months, as the expanse is only seven miles between the island and the bare and parched land of Albania, while the greatest extent of marine surface is down the channel of Kalamos, which lies in a south-east and southerly direction, where the breezes are warm, moist, and relaxing.

The change of the season, however, changes the influence of localities on the winds of the place, as it does on those of other places.

For six months in the year the snow on the gigantic mountains of Albania is a fruitful source of cold and moisture to the winds sweeping over them; so, in the early part of summer (in April and May) a change of wind from the S., S.E., or S.W. to the direction of these mountains is attended with a sudden and great decrement of temperature; while the contrary effect as remarkably obtains on a reverse of the phenomena. The chief resulting complaints are catarrhal and mucous affections, which are quite endemic in such seasons. When the snow melts, the breeze from the mountains would be not only warm but dry, but as seven miles of water intervenes, it always gains some degrees of humidity before it arrives at the anchorage of the city.

These easterly winds are, however, not frequent during the hot months; during which, in the evening, a haze is generally settling down on the top and shoulders of these mountains; occasioned by the reverberation from their heated surfaces preventing the deposition of dew from the humid strata of the super-incumbent atmosphere.

12. ITHACA

Is also a good anchorage in the hot season; though it is sterile it is dry, and possesses few or no sources of hurtful miasma.

13. MALTA

Is perhaps as free as any situation in the Mediterranean from every terrestrial source of unhealthiness; and Valetta a happy immunity from the disturbing or injurious effects resulting from changes of wind, being situated in the north and having its Sirocco winds, ameliorated by their first traversing the surface of the island.

Considerable febrile sickness, however, has at times obtained in Malta harbour, and in the summer of 1823, the ship's company of H.M.S. *Euryalus* suffered a good deal from these complaints, which I attributed in a great degree from their sleeping on shore exposed to the foul effluvia emanating from the upper end of the creek, where lies stagnant water, and the vegetable market.

In May of this year, the day sun was strong, while the nights were very cold when the wind was from the southward, which it frequently was.

Thus congestions were easily induced in those systems, replete from drinking fluids, and were assisted greatly by their expansion during the heat of the day.

In winter the northerly winds are always rendered more temperate by their passage over the intervening sea after they leave the cold surface of Europe; while along the southward of Greece these winds are felt in all their original frigidity.

The opposite results obtain in late summer: the northerly winds are cool at Malta, and hot and dry on the south shores of Greece.

I have seen in March a fall of hailstones lie about an inch in depth, and at this time of the year the winds sometimes from their great and frequent changes lose their distinctive characters. Thus I have seen the S.E. or Sirocco cloudy, cold, and wet, and the W. and S.W. neither mild nor warm, arising from the frequent changes tossing back and forwards the mass of clouds and atmospheric strata.

14. SICILY

The south and south-easterly shores of Sicily are liable to great vicissitudes of weather, and the Sirocco there is much complained of by all travellers.

15. NAPLES

It is needless to speak of the beautiful and breezy Bay of Naples; the refreshing salubrity of it is proverbial; but remarkable vicissitudes occur nevertheless in the climate on a change of wind, from off the sea or the land; modified materially again by the Apennine ridge being covered with snow, or reverberating the heat of an autumnal sun.

In November 1822 the weather was very variable, cold and wet, and bowel complaints greatly prevailed.

In November 1823, on the change of the dry wind from the northward to the moist and warm Sirocco, a multitude of catarrhs made their appearance on board ship, and though severe, and many required bleeding, yet they as quickly disappeared on wind returning to the north. The corresponding ranges of temperature were witnessed as much as 20° of Fahrenheit from hot to cold.

16. ALGIERS

Though the plague at times rages at this place, yet its natural situation keeps it free from any endemial causes of sickness, and it may be reckoned a healthy place, owing to the high land to the southward tempering the heat and dryness of the winds of the desert. All winds here from E. through N. to W. are damp or foggy in the summer season.

In August 1824, an interesting coincidence of the appearances of nineteen cases of febrile commotion with a sudden change of wind took place off Bona, Algeria, in H.M.S. *Euryalus*.

The previous winds for some days had been moist, when they were interrupted for two hours by a strong Sirocco, accompanied by a great rise of temperature, and so arid was the wind that anything moist or damp dried in it as quickly as if it had been exposed to the fire.

The marked attacks of fever were simultaneous and disappeared in a short time, from gentle depletion, and the quickly succeeding change of weather.

Towards the extreme of the northern coast of Africa, the sand from the desert often reaches the Mediterranean and gives a light yellowish hazy tint to the atmosphere.

At Alexandria, with the breeze at S.W. by S. warm and dry, I have seen the finely pulverulient sand create a complete haze and partially obscure the sun. I first thought that the haze arose from the humidity evaporated from the sea; but finding portions of yellowish sand collected in several exposed places on board, soon convinced me of the true nature of the phenomena. A change of wind at this place in February, from N.E. to S.W. by S., produced an increase of temperature from 56° to 76°, being 20° in a day.

17. Gulf of Napoli di Romania

On arriving in this gulf from Malta in the winter and spring season, with a northerly wind, a great depression of temperature is felt; for the anchorage is completely surrounded with snowy mountains. The winds passing over there in the day-time become saturated with humidity, and from being at that temperature at which the range from the point of saturation to the dew point is very limited, viz., between 45° and 55°, this humidity is easily precipitated.

In the Gulf of Kolokythia during the summer, the breeze sets up the gulf in the morning, and dies away towards night; and I have never experienced the effects of any malarious winds at night, even when they regularly set in from the land in the months of August and September.

One of our sloops of war, however, experienced a good deal of fever in this gulf in the autumn of 1825.

The inhabitants in the neighbouring parts of Laconia are subject to boils and ulcers at this season of the year, and they generally looked unhealthy.

18. Milo

There are many sources of febrific miasmata in this island, but when the winds blow from the northward, they only traverse the promontory of high and dry land, which forms the east shore of the harbour.

To the southward, however, of the anchorage, there is a good deal of low and marshy land, over which a fog generally rests morning and evening in calm weather; and the breeze from which must arrive changed, and with much exhalation. In the same southerly direction, there are some hot sulphurous springs, which, whatever their influence really may be, are carefully avoided, as hot beds of sickness, by the inhabitants. It is well known that sickness has raged at times severely in this island; and the ancients seem to have been aware of the insalubrity of part mentioned, for all the ruins are found in the northward or more elevated land.

In the autumn of 1824, a fever broke out, and carried off a great many inhabitants. It was said to be brought from Candia by some Greek refugees, who principally fell a sacrifice to it. I was told by a Miliote—for they have no medical man on the island—that those whose sickness was followed by an ague generally recovered.

19. Cerigo

Though a high lying island and well exposed to the wind in all directions, I have found fevers prevail in August 1825, but the disease was principally among the Greek soldiers. The inhabitants, in the absence of all malarious ground, attribute their attacks of fever among them to the change of wind from the northward to the southward.

In Port St Nicolo the temperature was 85°, and the breeze followed the course of the sun in the middle of this month; though at sea the winds were more defined.

Remittents and agues continued to prevail here in the latter part of the above year, even towards the interior of the island.

The sickness was more remarkable as there is no observable source of miasma; the surface being dry and free from wood.

The above changes of the wind, from one opposite point to another, being the only concomitant and phenomenon known to obtain.

The season broke up rather early this year by thunderstorms.

20. CLIMATE OF SMYRNA

The winters here are generally temperate, and the lowest point of the thermometer which I have observed during one season, 1826-1827, in the open air on board ship by night as well as by day, was not below 41°, between which and the highest 72° there was, however, many vicissitudes, both as to humidity and temperature. The transitions of weather were not so suddenly marked, as among the Ionian Islands, or on the coast of Greece. The influence of locality is at this place remarkable, the S.E. wind having not much the character of the Sirocco, the atmosphere not being hazy at the time, nor was it accompanied by those sensations which distinguished a Sirocco on the coast of Italy and Greece.

There being little or no snow in that direction, the wind was temperate, and not humid; and rains were always preceded by a change of wind from S.E. to S.W. or S., but they are never of long continuance at one time, though severe. And as a general observation on this season of the year, there is less variation in the temperature and hygrometry of the air than in Italy or southern Greece.

The wet points are S.W. and W. and the difference of temperature between S.E. and N. is very considerable.

Catarrhal complaints at the greatest depression of temperature prevailed greatly on shore, as well as on board ship, and were attended in many cases with much fever.

The winds were then N.E. and E., in which direction the land in the distance was covered with snow. In the month of October, 1824, while visiting the coast of Asia Minor, and being off the Troad, some intermittents made their appearance among our seamen, and I was led to attribute their appearance to local influence.

The plains of Old Ilium are low and extensive, and at a short distance from the beach is the marshy delta of the Simois River. In its vicinity, and more to the interior, is the more extensive and paludal course of the Simois River.

Independent of every miasmata which the winds blowing over these very probable sources brought, it was evident at least that they were very moist, and much reduced in temperature from the warmth of the day.

The average temperature in this month in this part was 69° on the main deck of the ship, and the general weather has been pleasant.

21. Acarnania

The whole coast about Missolonghi, and the mouth of the Ancient Achelous River is very unhealthy during the autumnal months especially, as the marshy and low lands in this diluvial region are an extensive bed for the production of azootic exhalations, and I would recommend no vessels to anchor by night near this coast in that season of the year.

In May 1826 a good deal of fever made its appearance on this coast, which was declared to be of the typhoid variety, and it was communicated to one of our vessels of war.

Whether it was solely to be attributed to the marsh exhalations, or partly to the destitution and privation which were spread over the neighbourhood after the fall of Missolonghi, I have not been able to determine.

The high land of Albania moderates the sultry and oppressive quality of the Sirocco, though, while it blows, the atmosphere by day is hazy, streaked, and disturbed, and by night is clear from the deposition of dew, if it is calm, or is beset with light and regularly formed clouds, which are again converted into haze by the next day's sun.

22. Greece

It is long in the spring before the high land in northern Greece gets sufficiently heated to make the land breeze feel warm or even temperate; and I have seen in the beginning of June from Corfu the range of Pindus deeply coated with snow. As summer advances, the winds get light and variable, and are accompanied by a warm or sultry sky in the daytime, and followed by heavy dews at night.

When the herbage and foliage begin to fade and wither, the earth becomes better fitted to reverberate the heat as well as to absorb it, and of course the winds traversing the country become inflamed and raised in their temperature.

Electric disturbances herald the breaking up of the summer constitution of the atmosphere.

The brig happened again to be on the western side of Greece, when this change commenced, which was before sunrise on the morning of the 9th September 1826, with the development of an astonishing quantity of electric light without much thunder, followed by heavy squalls and floods of rain.

For two or three days after the prevalence of southerly and westerly winds on the south-west coast of the Morea, the wind became scanty and very irregular, and on approaching the channel between Zante and the Morea, the horizon to the northward and north-west, and north-east, was seen supporting towards sunset a long, low dark bank of cloud; along the upper irregular outline of which the lightning could be seen playing.

23. ATHENS

In May 1826 I found a good deal of fever had broken out among the Greek troops; but among themselves there were sufficient causes to produce such distemper without the aid of any malarious breezes from the marshy Cephisus, or the few swamps in the course of the Ilissus towards the Piræus.

24. Calabria

The wind from off that part of Italy was hot and dry, while from the S.E., S. and S.W. it was excessively damp and accompanied by a cloudy sky.

From the quantity of rain yet fallen not having been sufficient to cool the terrestrial superficies or rob it of the heat which through the summer it has imbibed, the changes of wind are not yet remarkable as to temperature.

25. Conclusion

To give a complete history and estimate of the climate of the Mediterranean as connected with health and the development of disease, it would be necessary to bring forward an outline of the diseases which affect the various nations inhabiting its shores, as well as those which seafaring people and strangers experience; but this was an extent of inquiry beyond the opportunity of the author.

The preceding sketch proposes to detail simple meteorological phenomena which came under observation. A few indications which he has drawn may seem to illustrate the more obvious connections between health and climate.

Without entering into the observations on that part of the above undertaking which applies to the health and diseases of seamen on this station, I shall merely close this sketch with the following nosographical table for the year, as synoptical of his undertaking.

January February March	Catarrhal fever. Pneumonic complaints. Rheumatic pains. Catarrhs.
April May	Cynanches. Ardent fever.
June July	Continued fever. Spasms.
August September	Remittent or Intermittent. Cholera or dry belly-ache.
October November December	Diarrhœas. Catarrhs.

WEATHER TABLE

MONTHLY EXTRACT LOG BOOK—H.M. Ship *Chanticleer*—Captain MAXWELL—Mediterranean Seas, 1825-26-27.

Months.	Average Temperature.	Days at Sea.	Days in Harbour.	Fair Weather.	Prevalent Winds.	Ports and Harbours.
1825.						
February..	57½	8	20	Fair	Northerly	Malta, Alexandria.
March ..	60½	12	19	,,	,,	Alexandria, Malta.
April ..	64	8	22	,,	Variable	Malta, Cephalonia, Corfu.
May	71	23	8	,,	Northerly	Malta, Zante.
June	71	19	11	,,	Southerly	Zante, Adriatic.
July	76½	16	15	,,	Variable, Lt.	Corfu.
August ..	79½	17	14	,,	,,	Cerigo, Kolokythia. (Thunder and lightning.)
September	74½	20	10	,,	N'thly, V'ble	Corfu, Archangela. (Thunder and lightning.)
October ..	67	15	16	,,	N.W.	Kolokythia and Malta. (Showery.)
November	66	7	23	,,	Variable	Malta.
December	64	20	11	,,	Variable, Hy.	Corfu, Tortigga, Zante.
Totals	..	165	169	..	..	..
1826.						
January ..	55	16	15	Fair	V'ble ; Gales	Zante, St Maura. (Rainy.)
February..	..	7	21	O	,,	Zante.
March ..	..	16	15	Fair	Northerly	Zante, Napoli, Corfu.
April ..	..	9	21	,,	Variable	Zante, Pateta, Missolonghi.
May	..	14	17	,,	,,	Corfu, Athens, Napoli.
June	..	6	24	,,	Northerly	Zante.
July	..	23	8	,,	,,	Corfu, Zante.
August ..	..	19	12	,,	,,	Zante.
September	..	15	15	,,	Variable	Malta.
October ..	68½	..	31	,,	,,	Malta, Milo, Smyrna.
November	63½	10	20	O	E. and S.E.	Smyrna.
December	53	12	29	O	Variable	Smyrna.
Totals	..	147	218	..	..	..
1827.						
January ..	55½	11	20	O	S. and S.W.	Smyrna and Syra.
February..	58¾	3	25	Fair	Variable	Malta.
March ..	62½	11	20	,,	N.W.	Malta, Syra (?), Messina.
April ..	62½	18	12	,,	Variable	Marseilles, Malta.
May	68	21	10	,,	,,	St Nicolo, Corfu.
June	72	20	10	,,	,,	Corfu, Cephalonia, Lossino.
Totals	..	84	97	..	..	..

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT—Mediterranean Seas, 1824-25.

Weather.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.
1824.													
Temperature— Noon on Board	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	75·75	69·55	58·17	58	..
Winds—Days													
North	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	9	12	12	6	62
N.E.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	4
East	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	7
S.E.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
South	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	1	..	..	7
S.W.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	4
West	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	6	2	13	29
N.W...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	7	12
Fair and Clear..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	13	18	17	20	96
Fair and Cloud..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	15	6	5	6	35
Showery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	6	3	13
Rain	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	2	2	9
Thunder and Lightning ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	1	..	..	9
Calms & V'bles.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	9	6	8	..	27
1825.													
Temperature— Noon on Board	55·55	54·6	59·16	64·66	69·74	70·37	74·65	79·16	74·73	69·04	64·27	60	..
Winds—Days													
North	6	10	9	5	14	13	6	6	19	9	8	11	116
N.E.	10	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	4	1	2	11
East	4	1	..	..	..	..	12	2	1	..	..	3	23
S.E.	..	..	4	4	1	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	13
South	1	10	8	1	5	1	..	..	..	8	2	7	43
S.W.	..	..	3	1	..	3	..	..	..	2	1	1	11
West	10	4	..	8	4	8	4	8	1	2	3	..	52
N.W...	1	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	9
Fair and Clear..	16	13	15	21	24	18	28	31	25	19	18	16	244
Fair and Cloud..	9	10	10	6	2	7	3	..	3	10	10	10	80
Showery	2	..	2	2	Sirocco	4	..	..	..	1	1	3	15
Rain	4	6	4	1	Sirocco	1	..	..	2	1	1	2	22
Thunder and Lightning ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	3
Calms & V'bles.	8	4	7	5	7	5	5	14	8	6	13	6	88

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT—Mediterranean Seas, 1826-27.

Weather.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.
1826.													
Temperature— Noon on Board	56·70	58·86	60·66	64·26	71·13	71·87	77·23	81·0	75·36	70·54	64·5	56·16	..
Winds—Days													
North	17	13	12	8	6	4	9	20	7	8	7	1	112
N.E.	9	9	4	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	4	34
East	1	..	..	2	4	..	2	..	2	..	5	9	25
S.E.	..	1	4	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	2	2	14
South	..	..	1	3	3	12	5	..	..	1	6	5	36
S.W.	..	2	3	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	9
West	3	2	2	4	3	1	..	..	2	7	1	3	28
N.W...	1	1	2	2	7	2	2	2	2	4	3	..	28
Fair and Clear..	21	16	17	23	19	16	23	30	24	5	8	10	212
Fair and Cloud..	9	2	6	6	12	10	4	..	9	17	12	14	101
Showery	..	7	4	1	..	3	4	1	1	3	6	2	32
Rain	1	3	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	6	4	5	24
Thunder and Lightning ..	..	1	..	..	2	..	2	1	5	6	1	2	20
Calms & V'bles.	..	..	3	4	6	8	13	9	17	10	3	8	81
1827.													
Temperature— Noon on Board	57·45	59·35	62·0	62·71	69·13	74·0	78·0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Winds—Days													
North	4	5	3	5	4	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	28
N.E.	3	3	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
East	1	1	2	1	2	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	15
S.E.	2	4	..	6	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
South	8	1	1	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
S.W.	9	2	..	2	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
West	2	5	2	3	6	7	14	..	..	..	..	..	39
N.W...	..	5	14	4	1	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	30
Fair and Clear..	14	18	21	22	18	19	26	..	..	..	..	..	138
Fair and Cloud..	12	7	10	6	11	10	5	..	..	..	..	..	61
Showery	3	3	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Rain	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Thunder and Lightning ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Calms & V'bles.	2	2	8	7	9	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	38

WILLIAM BLACK,
Surgeon, H.M.S. *Chanticleer*.

MONTHLY NOSOLOGICAL REPORT—Mediterranean Seas. 1825-26.

Diseases.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.
1825.													
Fever—													
Idiopathic	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	10
Nasal	..	1	..	4	..	1	..	3	..	4	..	5	18
Fauces	..	..	..	..	6	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	12
Lungs	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	1	..	2	1	8
Gastrodynia Enteralgia	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Colica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	1	..	7
Diarrhœa..	..	1	6	3	2	2	..	1	7	6	..	..	28
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	3
Vertigo Cardialgia	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rheumat. Chr.	..	3	2	5	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	15
Hæmorrhage	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	4
Eruptions	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Spasm Convulsion	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ophthalmia	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dyspepsia	..	.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hyararthus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Venereal	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6
Wounds	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	4
Contusion	..	..	3	..	..	1	2	1	1	1	1	..	10
Fractura	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Phlogosis..	..	..	..	1	2	1	5	7	6	2	2	4	30
Dysœcœa..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Died	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	none
Totals	..	10	14	20	20	14	12	17	21	20	9	16	173
1826.													
Fever—													
Idiopathic	..	1	..	..	..	3	2	..	1	1	1	..	9
Nasal	..	6	..	1	..	..	2	1	1	1	3	..	15
Fauces	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	1	..	7
Lungs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Gastrodynia Enteralgia	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Colica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2
Diarrhœa..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	..	2	6	3	1	21
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Vertigo Cardialgia	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	3
Rheumat. Chr.	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	5
Hæmorrhage	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Eruptions	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	3
Ophthalmia	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Eneuresis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Hemeralopia	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Jaundice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Venereal	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	1	10
Wounds	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	7
Contusion	..	2	1	..	1	2	..	2	3	3	2	..	16
Phlogosis	5	..	3	2	1	6	7	10	5	4	3	5	51
Died	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	none
Totals	9	13	10	4	5	18	18	18	14	21	22	10	163

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Diseases.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Totals.
1827.													
Fever—													
Idiopathic	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Nasal	16	..	4	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Fauces	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Lungs	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Liver	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Gastrodynia Enteralgia	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhœa..	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Vertigo Cardialgia	4	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Rheumat. Chr.	..	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Hæmorrhage	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Eruptions	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ischuria Eneuresis	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dyspepsia	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Venereal	1	..	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Wounds	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Contusion	2	..	3	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Phlogosis	2	2.	3	3	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Dysœcœa	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Anasarca	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Died	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	none
Totals	27	6	19	17	16	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	96

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Surgeon, H.M.S. *Chanticleer.*

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